



A helping hand for the RNLI from the Masons. (See page 3 for details).

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# Bridgend & Porthcawl

# GEM



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THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD, 2010

'WE ARE DETERMINED TO KEEP GOING FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN... THEY ABSOLUTELY LOVE BEING HERE WITH THE HORSES AT COITY...'

## Local Riding for the Disabled charity's SOS for a new 'home'

A NEW home is desperately needed for a charity that provides riding for disabled children.

The Bridgend branch of Riding for the Disabled is having to leave its base at Long Acre Farm, Coity, following the death of owners John and Barbara Ladbrooke.

Mr and Mrs Ladbrooke were huge supporters of the charity and established the centre more than 40 years ago.

The farm had an indoor riding arena and suitable stabling for the horses.

"We are determined to keep going for the sake of the children. They absolutely love being here with the horses."

"When a child first comes, we often have to coax them on but we persist and they end up adoring it."

"All the disruptive behaviour which they

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

enthusiastic and it was one of Barbara's passions. She was totally dedicated to the children and John gave her every support."

The charity does not own any of the facilities at the farm, which were all provided by Mr and Mrs Ladbrooke, but does not own them all.

The children who attend come from Heronbridge School and other special units, and suffer from a range of physical disabilities, learning difficulties and emotional problems.

"We have been to see a few places that have been offered, but we have not found anything really suitable yet," Mr Roberts reported.

The group relies on volunteers to come in and look after the children on the two days a week when riding takes place. There are about 30 people who help out.

Volunteers help to look after the horses, along with a paid part-time employee, to make sure the horses are tended seven days a week.

The charity is looking for financial support to help it pay the costs involved in moving to a new base and setting itself up there.

"Fund-raising has been getting more difficult in the current financial situation.

"But we desperately need extra money to ensure that we keep this going for the children," Mr Roberts added.

"It would be great if we could find a wealthy benefactor and we are keeping our fingers crossed."

Speaking afterwards, she said that she had enjoyed her year as mayoress and was looking forward to being deputy mayor this year which will entail some civic duties.

"We are hoping to have a bit of a break this year and then get back into the swing next year representing Bridgend at various events in the area," she added.

Coun Mervyn Lewis is also a borough councillor.

## No honeymoon period for Mr Cairns (MP/AM) as resignation row ignites

THE 'honeymoon period' that any new MP can expect came to a sudden end last week for Vale MP Alun Cairns – with his defeated electoral opponents accusing him of "breaking a campaign pledge".

The cause of the outrage was the announcement that Mr Cairns would continue as the AM for South Wales West until next year's Assembly elections – although he has tried to deflect criticism by saying that he will not draw an AM's salary.

The issue has been simmering since before the election, when Mr Cairns said that, if elected, he would stand down as an AM.

He did, indeed, offer his resignation to the Conservative party with-

in hours of being elected as an MP.

However, the Conservative next in line to replace Mr Cairns in the Assembly is Coun Chris Smart, of Porthcawl, and it would appear that Coun Smart no longer enjoys the confidence of local Conservative party managers.

A larger than life figure, with trenchant 'traditional Tory' views, he does not sit well with Mr Cameron's new-style Conservative party.

There has been no shortage of speculation that the 'men in suits' would be paying Coun Smart a visit, asking him to stand down.

However, Coun Smart told The GEM that he was particularly upset to be told the news by the BBC, not his own party.

He said: "This decision is a kick in the teeth for the 30,000 people who voted Conservative

by PHILIP IRWIN

Instead, the local Conservative party asked Alun Cairns to stay on until the Assembly elections next May, leaving Coun Smart out in the cold.

The decision has

found few supporters.

Alun Cairns is clearly unhappy with the situation, and a senior Vale Conservative, Coun Jeff James said: "This was a difficult decision for the party, and we appreciate Alun's reluctance, but we are committed to do everything possible to support him between now and next March."

An angry Coun Smart told The GEM that he was particularly upset to be told the news by the BBC, not his own party.

He said: "This decision is a kick in the teeth for the 30,000 people who voted Conservative

in South Wales West in the last Assembly elections.

"There is no way they will have effective representation."

He continued: "All along, it was known that Alun Cairns should have offered his resignation to the Presiding Officer, rather than to the Conservative management board,

"I don't often agree with Madeleine Moon, who coincidentally sits on the same town council (Porthcawl) as Coun Smart, shared Ian Johnson's memory of the hustings.

campaign, Alun Cairns gave clear indications that he would not try to do both jobs.

"For him to go back on his word once elected is in very bad faith. I am sure that the people of both the Vale and South Wales West will be very disappointed to find that they have elected a part time politician."

The defeated Labour candidate, Alana Davies, who coincidentally sits on the same town council (Porthcawl) as Coun Smart, shared Ian Johnson's memory of the hustings.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

## Pontycymmer death

SOUTH Wales Police are investigating the sudden death of a 43-year-old man from the Pontycymmer area of Bridgend.

The man's body was discovered on Monday, May 31. A police spokesman said, "The death is not being treated as suspicious. A file is being prepared for HM Coroner."

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## 'Modern design is sheer lunacy'

**O**UR elected councillors are telling us that we should have more pride in Porthcawl and how it is going to be a wonderful place to live and visit, as the regeneration will transform the area.

The 'bottle bank' on the front was the start. It is totally out of character with the water front and is ridiculed by visitors.

I thought that our planners would have learnt a lesson after the derogatory remarks about it, but even this eyesore has been survived.

The new Lifeguards accommodation on the top of Sandy Bay has really hit the pits. It must have taken a lot of thought and planning(!) to place two metal sheds side by side with one on the top. My 10-year-old granddaughter could have done better.

Even though they are being purpose-built (very, very slowly!) no matter how they dress them, they still look like

shipping containers and the yellow colour of the top one is an eyesore which can be clearly seen from the town.

The Lifeguards lookout tower on Rych Point is excellent. It is a wonderful-looking building which complements the rocky point and is admired by everyone. Why couldn't a similar building have been built?

We have been told that these sheds are costing us over £350,000. I know several local builders that have built very large detached luxury properties for less. Where is our financial department? This is our money that is being wasted.

When Sandy Bay is eventually developed, anyone living near there will have a breathtaking view of a Big Metal Yellow Shed.

This is not modern design, this is sheer lunacy. If this is the same architect that is going to design the rest of the development, heaven help Porthcawl.

**TM Williams,**  
Porthcawl

## 'Wales gets more cash than the rest'

**I** WAS amazed at the petty, indeed vindictive, criticism levelled at Alun Cairns by D. Ian Johnson in last week's edition of The GEM.

Does he not realise that over the last few years we have collectively and individually spent far more than we have earned, to the point where our deficit and accumulated debts are no longer acceptable to our creditors?

Does he not know either that Wales, at just under £10,000 per person per year, receives more from the Exchequer than any other part of the United Kingdom?

The south east of England by comparison receives just under £6,000, all of which

means that we are already being subsidised by the rest of the country.

Whether we have been lucky or unlucky, thrifty or profligate in the past is now irrelevant.

Unless our coalition government gets to grips with both our deficit and debt it is inevitable that international financial organisations will force even more painful measures.

Please Dr. Johnson, join the real world and get used to the fact that we are all going to have to pay the price of our financial impropriety, with essentials being the priority and the 'nice to haves' being foregone for some years to come.

**Peter Graham-Woollard,**  
Colwinston

### EMAIL US!

WE welcome your news, views and sports items.

Please email them to the

Editorial Department at:  
[ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)

# Back to Parliament to sort out the mail, and Opposition role

**R**ETURNING to Westminster as a re-elected MP is very different to your experience when elected for the first time; you have already passed those major hurdles of having staff, a constituency office and know your way around the building.

If you are happy to stay in your Westminster office, you also have somewhere to work and just have to unpack the 18 boxes into which were stuffed all of your papers, files, records etc when Parliament was dissolved.

There are, however, still major hurdles to be tackled: I will now be sharing an office with Huw Irranca Davies MP for Ogmore, so there was an office move to negotiate.

Offices are allocated by the accommodation whip for each of the political parties; gentle but persistent nagging is required to facilitate each move.

My 18 boxes will finally be moved and chaos will ensue for at least a week while unpacking takes place. A new member of staff is to be based in London. Lucy worked in the Bridgend constituency office and has now moved to London and faces a huge learning curve over the next few weeks.

Regular readers of this column may remember the stories of the huge piles of mail that greet a newly-elected MP. The same pile greets a returning MP. The difference is you can identify quickly the items you know you are going to use or need: lots of letters asking you to join all-party parliamentary groups, annual reports from business and third sector organisations all of which you already know well.

One impressive letter from the Welsh Chamber of Commerce was addressed to Ms Moon, Welsh Assembly Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff. It arrived in my Westminster office

The briefing that

### WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP **MADELEINE MOON** is writing an exclusive monthly report from Westminster for The GEM.



can be contacted on 0808010800.

On a more positive note, my in-tray at least does not include wading through the Commons briefing notes to help new members settle into the job.

Four sat waiting for me, guidance on maiden speeches, swearing in of Members at the start of a Parliament, the Speaker's election and Queen's Speech 2010. In 2005, the training comprised a quick chat over a coffee with an older member who would give you the quick do's and don'ts of how not to make a major mistake.

Things have improved, with more training provided because of the large number of new members.

Being in opposition is going to be a new experience. Remembering to sit on the opposition benches in the chamber and listening to new ministers outline the way ahead.

Sitting on the back bench with Ann Clwyd during the Queen's speech debate, on foreign affairs and defence there was one surreal moment. William Hague announced that the Prime Minister had visited Powys and Berlin. We need to learn to understand Mr Hague's Yorkshire accent.

*The Prime Minister had visited Paris and Berlin. Oops!*

### HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 10)

*The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.*

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
03 Thur	11.11	7.9	23.36	8.2
04 Fri	11.58	7.7		
05 Sat	00.25	7.7	12.54	7.5
06 Sun	01.22	7.5	13.51	7.3
07 Mon	02.29	7.5	14.59	7.5
08 Tues	03.27	7.8	16.06	7.9
09 Wed	04.29	8.1	17.00	8.3
10 Thur	05.21	8.4	17.39	8.7

*While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.*

## LOCAL INFORMATION

**MADELEINE MOON** MP for Bridgend  
Westminster office - 02072194417, Constituency office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm (by appointment only). Telephone 01656 750002.

**HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES** MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777

**JANICE GREGORY** AM for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034

**CARWYN JONES** AM for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320

**Bethan Jenkins** AM for South West Wales Telephone 01639 643549

**BRIDGEND CAB** Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend CF31 1JD 01656 654951 - Open: Monday: 10am to 2pm - information only; Tuesday to Friday: 10am to 12.30pm - advice sessions. Tuesday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm - information only.

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**GAS** (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999

**ELECTRICITY** (power cuts) 0800 0520400

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Pyle Community Council 0790 460 4049

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Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631

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# £1,000 welcome boost for lifesaving funds

**JOHN ABRAHAM**, chairman of Porthcawl RNLI Lifeboat Station, was "delighted" to invite a group of Masons to view the new state-of-the-art Atlantic 85 lifeboat and the launching equipment used, when needed, to rescue those in peril at sea.

Members of Kenfig Lodge, based in Porthcawl, had agreed to support the RNLI as part of its fundraising for 2010.

The group had raised a total of £1,000 and this was presented to the Porthcawl RNLI fundraisers during the visit to the station.

Chairman John Abraham said: "It was amazing the total amount raised by this relatively small lodge who meet four times a



ABOVE: THE £1,000 CHEQUE IS HANDED OVER IN PORTHCAWL.

year and generate money that then benefits organisations such as ours.

"As a charity, the RNLI relies totally on donations from individuals and groups like this and it is very reassuring to know that people keep

us in mind and help so much to keep our crews trained and equipped."

Graham Wild, representing Kenfig Lodge, said: "Charity giving is fundamental to Masons as we are one of the largest charity providers in Britain.

"Nationally, we have supported the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for many years.

"More recently, at Kenfig Lodge, we decided we would make a donation to the RNLI's Porthcawl Lifeboat Station, thus supporting

both the local crews and the community who use the sea in and close to our town."

The crew are very aware of the costs involved each time they have a call-out.

Each rescue is different and depends very much on the sea conditions at the time. They are confident knowing that the RNLI provides them with the very latest professional training and the most suitable lifeboats to meet the ever increasing demands of the service.

Mr Abraham said: "At

Porthcawl during 2009, we took delivery of one of the RNLI's Atlantic 85 lifeboats, 'Rose of the Shires' the fastest lifeboat type in the fleet.

"This will be a great asset to us and all those who use the sea around our part of the coast. Last year proved to be our busiest for many years – a total of 55 callouts and 17 lives saved, so donations of this type are greatly appreciated.

We are grateful to members of the Kenfig Lodge and thank them for their support.

AJ

## Huw comes home to lead Mair's Walk!

**OMAIR'S** Walk takes place again in July – and BBC newsreader Huw Edwards, who has Bridgend connections, will lead it.

The walk, which raises money for lung cancer research at Velindre Hospital, takes place on Sunday, July 4, leaving Bridgend Recreation Centre at 11am.

The walk goes through Newbridge Fields, over the bypass and then through the fields to Merthyr Mawr and the stepping stones by Ogmore Castle.

It ends in a nearby field where there will be a marquee, food, drink and entertainment so that those taking part can make a day of it.

The Stepping Stones Appeal, which was set up by Bridgend businesswoman Mair ap Gruffydd, has raised £61,000 so far for Velindre. This will be the fourth walk.

Mair said that she was delighted that Huw Edwards had agreed to come along: "We are thrilled to have Huw, who has family in the area, with us.

"We have a great time on these walks and everyone enjoys themselves while raising money for a good cause," she commented.

Mair started the walks after being treated for lung cancer herself at Velindre.

The walks have grown every year and last year attracted 1,000 walkers.

The entry forms can be downloaded from the website at [www.mairs-walk.co.uk](http://www.mairs-walk.co.uk) or by calling Velindre on 02920 316211.

## MP is caught up in Assembly resignation row

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

She said: "Alun Cairns was quite adamant about standing down as an AM if he was elected. I would think

there must be dozens of people who were at Barry Comprehensive's hustings, for instance, who can confirm that.

"What is more, I don't remember anything about only tending his resignation to the Conservative party being mentioned.

"If you are honouring a promise to resign, you

knock on the Presiding Officer's door and do so.

"You don't suddenly point to the small print and try to get out of it."

One theory is that the Conservatives were hoping to make Coun Smart so angry that he would resign from the party, leaving the way clear for a less controversial replacement to be put forward for the Assembly.

However, he told The GEM: "I am considering my position, but I will not be making any rash statements."

You can now read your GEM online at: [bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk) or [porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)

## Final approval for Caerau's new BMX track

FINAL approval has been given by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) for a new BMX cycle track to be built in Caerau.

The Caerau Development Trust has put forward the scheme to develop the track on land behind the Dyffryn Hotel.

The site was created when the old tips at Coegnant Colliery and the colliery site itself were landscaped.

Although the land was designated for industrial use, BCBC has agreed to change the designation of this particular section to enable the track to go ahead.

Planning consent has

now been granted.

This will be the only BMX track along the M4 in South Wales and will attract people from a wide area, apart from giving local youngsters somewhere to go.

The Trust needs £250,000 to build it and is seeking grants from a variety of bodies, including the Western Valleys Regeneration Fund.

The track will also tie in with plans for mountain biking from Caerau up over the mountain to Cymer, where the new cycle route will link to those already in the Afan Valley, which has become one of the top 10 places in the world for mountain biking.

## Store hamper will aid the environment



(Left to right): Megan Mattravers, Stuart Pownall, Abby Richards.

THE Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship coordinator at Pencoed Comprehensive, Stuart Pownall, has thanked the Co-op store in Pencoed for donating a second Fairtrade hamper to the school's eco team.

This one was even bigger and better than the one that raised more than £100 from a raffle for the Haiti earthquake appeal.

The eco team raffled the second hamper and raised £110 in three hours. The money will enable the group to purchase litter pickers, which means they can take responsibility for litter on the site and also get out into the community from time to time.

Mr Pownall would like to personally thank Dean Barrett, assistant manager at Pencoed Co-op.

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## NEWS FROM PENCOED COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Very interesting, yes...  
**BUT LET'S GET TO THE FREE SAMPLES!**



RIGHT;  
Megan  
Mattravers  
and her  
fellow  
pupils try  
out their  
new skills,  
before  
sampling  
some  
chocolate!

Megan Mattravers, a graphic depiction of John and George Cadbury, discovered that it was a glass and a half of milk that was the missing ingredient more than 100 years ago! We were taken on a tour of the factory floor, where we were supplied with lots of free chocolate!"

The purpose of the visit was to supplement the year-8 Fairtrade unit of work and to gain an insight into the manufacturing industry.

A total of 100 pupils were accompanied by Stuart Pownall, Jon Phillips, Elinor Williams, Clive Nash and Emma Feehan (a student teacher).

"We witnessed a holo-

# MAYOR POPS IN TO GYM TO SEE RISING CHAMP JOHNNY!

THE Mayor of Bridgend CBC, Coun Jeff Tildesley, visited the gym of the Porthcawl and Pyle Pumas ABC on Monday, May 24, to congratulate young boxer Johnny Clatworthy on his recent success in becoming British champion.

The gym, located in New Road, Porthcawl, is in urgent need of repair and proposals are being prepared for renovation work.

Picture by KEITH MORGAN

**RIGHT:**  
Coun Jeff Tildesley, Mayor of Bridgend Bridgend County Borough Council, is shown around the gym by Paul Chappell (assistant trainer) and Aubrey Lewis (head coach).



## NEWS FROM BRIDGEND CHESS CLUB

### Junior Rapidplay

WHITSUN Saturday (May 29) sees the return of the Bridgend Junior Rapidplay tournament, sponsored by the Bridgend Lions.

It's the fourth outing for the competition, which always proves to be a friendly affair. Youngsters descend on the town from various parts of the country, not just south Wales. New friendships are made and chess takes the centre stage, with complete beginners and experienced juniors all vying for the prizes on offer.

No one leaves empty handed, as every entrant receives a certificate, and an invite to attend the local chess club with the promise of coaching and competitive games.

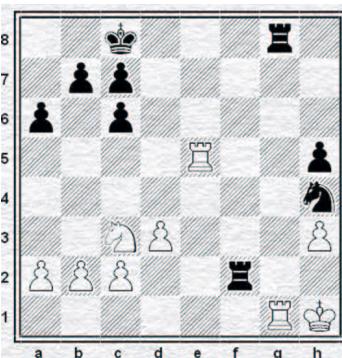
Any junior wanting to take part can turn up on the day. The event will be held at the Evergreen Hall, Angel Street, Bridgend. An entry form can be downloaded from the Bridgend Chess Club website, www.bridgendchessclub.org.uk, or telephone 01656 750274.

#### East Glamorgan Summer League

THE East Glamorgan Summer League gets underway during the first week of June. As usual, Bridgend will compete at all levels, however the emphasis is more on attracting new players and introducing them to league chess ready for the full East Glamorgan Chess League season.

If you want to experience competitive chess and a friendly social activity, visit us at the Bridgend Tennis and Bowls Club, each Monday and Thursday evening from 7pm.

ANDREW TRICKEY



#### Chess puzzle

Solve the chess puzzle above and submit your entry to us. Each week there is a free month's membership to Bridgend Chess Club up for grabs. In addition, each entry is placed into our monthly prize draw.

Black to play

Mate in 3 moves

Puzzle: BCC-023

(Answer)

1. Qh6 Bxf6 (if Bxh6, Ne7++); 2. Nf6 Kh8; 3. Qh7+. Winner: Mick King, Ogmore Vale

Please note, winners listed here can claim their free membership by attending the chess club, on Mondays and Thursdays. Feel free to email me for more information.

Entries to: The GEM, 53, Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL. Email entries to: andrew.trickey@egca.org.uk

### 'Police cuts will undermine area' – says a Plaid AM

POLICE budget cuts, burglaries, and closure of cells in Barry were all on the agenda when Plaid Cymru AM Chris Franks met the temporary Supt for Bridgend and the Vale, Jay Dave.

Following the meeting, the regional AM, warned of the dangers of cuts to the continuing success of policing in the area.

Conservative Policing Minister Nick Herbert has announced that South Wales Police face £2.8 million cuts this year\*.

Police in the area had a good record, which would be undermined by cuts from the government in London, Mr Franks insisted.

"I don't recall Alun Cairns, the Vale's Conservative candidate, warning people that a Tory victory would lead to fewer bobbies on the beat. South Wales Police



ABOVE:  
Plenty to talk about,  
the AM meets Supt  
Jay Dave.

force is not generously funded, and it is due to the refusal of the Home Office to acknowledge its special responsibilities.

"Unfortunately, the Welsh Assembly is also losing £184 million this year alone, so will not be able to find additional cash."

"Plaid is very concerned that all the progress there has been in the Vale will not be maintained if sufficient funds aren't available," he warned.

### AGM for KPC

KPC Youth is holding its AGM at its base off Pyle Inn Way in Pyle on Monday, July 5 from 6pm.

All parents and community members are welcome to attend, but it would be appreciated if attendance could be confirmed to Alison on 01656 749219 or kpcyouth@hotmail.com, so that organisers have an idea of numbers expected.

### Who wants to build what and where?

Mrs F Randall – Ashfield House, 13 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – programme of works to several trees (including canopy reduction, coppice, pruning, remove limbs, felling etc).  
 Mrs L Williams – 72 Rockfields, Porthcawl – side porch and first floor dormer to bungalow and re-aligned garden walls.  
 Mr S Bourne – 6 Maes Tra w s c o e d , Broadlands, Bridgend – new bus workshop and storage.  
 Mr R Sandilands – 141 Heol Y Bardd, Bridgend – rear single storey lean-to extension.  
 Asda – Asda Stores Ltd, Cochydwr Road, Bridgend – extension of existing home shopping loading bay platform with new canopy over, within existing service yard.  
 Mr J Raymond – 6 Meadow Street, Maesteg – first floor extension to provide bedroom.  
 Mr HJ Paget – 11 Heol Llansantffraid, Srn, Bridgend – single storey extension to provide bedroom and en-suite shower room.  
 Mrs S Evans – 6 Blaencaerau Road, Maesteg – detached garage to rear garden.  
 Old School House Nursery – Old School House Nursery, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend – sum-

merhouse for use by children for environmental and nature-type activities and to store play equipment.  
 Mr G Millington – Mountain View Garage, Ty-Fryn Road, Ceifi Cribwr, Bridgend – two storey extension to rear, dormer extensions to roof and new bay window to front of property.  
 Mr C Royal – Post Office, 15 Newton Nottage Road, Porthcawl – proposed ground floor single storey extension.  
 JC Electrics – 3 Verlands Court, Verland Way, Pencoed – change of use from shop to fish bar (restaurant and takeaway).  
 Mr H Roberts – 7 Osbourne Close, Litchard, Bridgend – single storey extension.  
 Mr H Lewis – 8 Osbourne Close, Litchard, Bridgend – single storey extension.  
 Distributed Generation Ltd – Baiden Farm, Cefn Cribbw, Bridgend – screening and scoping opinion for property, utility and wind farm (two turbines).

### GEM Quiz League posers

HERE are your four teasers:

- Which operetta by Offenbach features the celebrated 'can can'?
- Which island, about 30 miles long, is roughly equidistant from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland?
- Which was the first horse to be trained by a woman to win the Grand National?
- The name of which branch of mathematics comes from the Latin for 'little stone'?

A Rudge (Hon Sec BGQL)

ANSWERS:  
1. *Die lustige Operette*  
2. Isle of Man  
3. Calculus  
4. Calculus

### IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT THE LITCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Call goes out for some spare cuttings for the Seeds and Weeds club!

MR HOWELL, who runs our school Seeds and Weeds club, is asking if anybody has any spare cuttings of any shrubs or any surplus plants.

#### NHSOB

RYAN NEAGLE and William Watkins played in the NHSOB rugby tournament.

Tondu came third overall and the boys had fantastic trophies.

Evan Miles (Bridgend Sports) and Ellis Penman (Bridgend Athletic) played in the Bridgend County Junior Rugby Tournament at Bryncethin and came away with brilliant medals!

#### FOOTBALL

LOUIS EDWARDS and Ethan Bromley played at a football tournament.

Both boys played really well. Louis's foot control, especially his dribbling skills were outstanding as always.

#### BOWLS

DAFYDD REES has joined Pencoed bowls team.

He is training every Saturday – well done, Dafydd!

#### SUPER SWIMMER

LONGYFARCHIADAU i Imogen Lewis.

She achieved her 10m swimming badge. *Daliwch ari!*

#### CLASS 2H

CONGRATULATIONS to Harry Chatham on achieving certificates for mini crossbow, soccer school and mini fencing while on holiday at Center Parcs.

#### SOCCER STARS

LIAM KILBURN scored a goal and Dafydd Pett represented Penyfaw football club in a tournament.

Dylan Lewis represented Aberkenfig in a football tournament recently where he scored the winning goal!

#### RUGBY

KIERAN CHALMERS and Evan Thomas travelled to Usk, to represent Tondu RFC in a tournament where they won one game, drew one and lost one.

#### DYNAMIC DRIVER

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom Matthews on passing his LGV land driving licence recently – he didn't crash once!

# Mayor's final engagement is to visit Kenfig firefighters



**JUST** before finishing his year in office, the outgoing Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council, completed one of his 'pledges'.

On first taking office, Coun Jeff Tildesley, made a pledge to visit as many police and fire station in the county borough, as well as calling on as many voluntary organisations as possible – his aim being to thank people for the service that they provide to the community.

Kenfig Hill Fire Station, which has two fire engines and a complement of 22 volunteer fire fighters, was his final destination.

Coun Tildesley was accompanied by his consort, Mrs. Audrey Thomas, and as well as meeting all 22 volunteers at the station, he met Mike Horn (station commander), Terry Allen (watch manager), and the four crew managers, Heath Barron, Billy John, Nick Jones and Mike Sims.

The Mayor and his consort were given a conducted tour of the station.



**ABOVE:**

The crew demonstrating the emergency back-up water tank. This can be inflated and filled with water near the site of a fire.



## Meditation classes

**BUDDHIST** meditation classes will be held at the Quaker Meeting House, Bridgend from June 9–July 14 on Wednesdays evenings, from 7.30pm until 9pm.

Teachings will be based on the book 'Eight Steps to Happiness' by Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso.

I feel proud to have been able to make a difference to the lives of so many children and I would urge your readers to consider doing the same.

To find out more people should speak to their local fostering service, call Fosterline Scotland on 0141 204 1400 or visit [www.couldyoufoster.org.uk](http://www.couldyoufoster.org.uk)

Jim Bond  
Foster carer and chair of the Fostering Network  
[Jim.bond@fostering.net](mailto:Jim.bond@fostering.net)

# Council issues wasp warning

WITH the weather getting warmer, Bridgend County Borough Council's public protection department is warning residents to watch out for wasps.

Lee Jones head of public protection, said: "This is a busy time of year for us and we always receive lots of enquiries from residents regarding wasps.

"Last year the department's contractors carried out more than 100 wasp treatments. Wasps are mainly regarded as a pest due to their sting, but they rarely sting unless they are threatened.

"Unlike bees, wasps can sting many times and although it is not usually serious, it can be painful. There are some cases where a wasp sting may cause a severe reaction - if this happens then please seek medical advice. Generally, we advise residents to be vigilant and watch out for wasps."

As well as their sting, wasps can cause problems where they nest. There are a number of options available if you have a wasp's nest:

- Leave the nest alone; wasps destroy many insect pests in gardens. All wasps die in late autumn and the nest is never re-colonized.
- The public protection department can arrange for the nest to be treated. However, there is a charge for this (currently £57 per treatment) which must be paid prior to treatment.
- A professional pest

## MODEL LIONS!

PORTHCAWL has model Lions! They are the lady Lions of Porthcawl who are modelling the clothes for the Porthcawl Lions' fashion show being held at Awel y Mor on Wednesday, June 16 at 7pm.

The evening includes stalls, make up advice, plus the opportunity to purchase clothing modelled by the ladies of the Porthcawl Lions club and their friends.

Tickets are available from Gloria on 77272 or pay at the door on the night. Included in the price of £6 is a finger buffet plus a wine bar. A model evening is in store!

## ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

TV's Antiques Roadshow will be at St Fagans open air museum on Thursday, June 10.

The show was last televised from Cardiff City Hall in 2007.

These products are available at most garden centres and hardware stores, but please always read the label before applying insecticide, apply in accordance with manufacturer instructions and use at your own risk!"

*For further advice or to report a nest you wish to be treated the contact the Public Protection department on 01656 643260 or email [publicprotection@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:publicprotection@bridgend.gov.uk).*

## St Clare's has a top chess champ!



**JULIA MALEC.**

ing Make Your Mark Challenge, Young Enterprise, Chemistry Olympiad, Sport, Music and the Duke Of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Catherine Barnard, head of St Clare's School, commented: "At St Clare's we aim to offer our pupils not just the very best academic opportunities, but also a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities to enhance their school experience and develop them as young adults.

"Julia has been involved with Dr Skelton's chess club for many years and her achievements reflect the time and commitment she has put into the game of Chess."

## Don't let the food bugs bite!

**BRIDGEND** County Borough Council is using Food Safety Week (June 7-13) to remind residents about the importance of good food hygiene.

Phillip Stanton, service manager for environmental health, part of Bridgend County Borough Council's public protection department, said: "Last year, our public protection department received 176 confirmed cases of food poisoning, with an increase in the summer months.

"This year we again expect to see the number of cases reported to us going up as the weather gets warmer and barbecues and eating outside become more frequent.

*For advice on food safety go to [eatwell.gov.uk/keeping-foodsafe](http://eatwell.gov.uk/keeping-foodsafe)*

# Vale health services are under review

But most hospital patients will still be treated in Bridgend...

## REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

A REVIEW of community-based health services in the western Vale is currently under way.

Aberdawe Bro Morgannwg and the Cardiff and Vale health boards are jointly reviewing services to see which way to go in the future, and are consulting with various "stakeholder groups".

Services are provided by both boards with responsibility for them shared. The options being considered include making one of the boards responsible for these services in future.

Services under review cover everything, apart from those for people with a learning disability and their carers, which will continue to be provided by ABM.

Services being reviewed include community nursing, health visiting, midwifery, mental health services, community based therapy, specialist nurse clinics and paediatrics.

Any changes will not affect how people receive hospital-based treatment. The majority of hospital services for people in the western Vale will continue to be provided at Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend and mental health services will be at Glamrhdy Hospital, also in Bridgend.

The western Vale has been defined as including the council wards for Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, Llandow, Ewenny, St Bride's and Peterston Super Ely.

Both boards provide services to the western Vale at the moment and the consultation document says that while there will always be a need to work across boundaries, the position in the western Vale is an issue, given its size, the complexities in provision and a lack of clarity about the responsibility for providing core community services.

It has been agreed by all major stakeholders, including the Vale Council, that the recent NHS re-organisation, which created the two new health boards last October, was an opportunity to agree a way forward.

The document comes up with four options: *"The first is to do nothing and retain the status quo."*

*"The second is to do very little and just clarify roles and responsibilities."*

*"The third option is to nominate a single provider to improve integration between community and hospital based services. This would mean that all community services would be provided by ABM."*

*"The fourth option is to nominate a single provider which would bring all of the Vale under one umbrella, in line with the council's boundaries. This would mean that the Cardiff and the Vale Board would take over all community services."*

An in-depth analysis of the options has ruled

out the first option of doing nothing at all as not being viable.

The second option of doing the minimum also has disadvantages, including problems in community nursing because both boards use different documentation, syringe drivers and equipment suppliers.

The two health visiting services also work in different ways and midwifery cannot provide continuity of care unless women go to Llandough or the University Hospital of Wales to give birth.

The third option of allowing ABM to provide all the service also has disadvantages, including the risk of "inequalities in service" across the Vale and the fear that issues in the Vale would be a minor component of the activity of ABM, which covers an area stretching

across to Neath, Swansea and Gower.

The fourth option, allowing the Cardiff and Vale Board to take over, also carries similar disadvantages, including that residents of the western Vale who are registered with Bridgend GP practices could be disadvantaged.

The consultation document points out that many residents in Ogmore-by-Sea and Southerndown are registered with practices in Bridgend, while those living in Peterston Super Ely often register with a GP in the Rhondda Cynon Taff area.

Once discussions have taken place with staff, and the views of other stakeholders have been collated, the two boards will work together to thrash out a preferred way forward which will "address clinical governance issues and is acceptable to key stakeholders".

## Dan takes Welsh title A WINNING WEEKEND!



ABOVE:  
Dan Jones takes his place  
on the podium.

A LOCAL kart driver, Dan Jones, is celebrating, after becoming Welsh champion after two days of intensive racing at the Llandow race circuit.

It proved a non-stop winning weekend as he took both pole position and the chequered flag in every race he started.

In two qualifying heats on the Saturday and Sunday, Dan set the fastest time and then led from start to finish in both.

He continued to set the pace in practice before the final and once again he was on pole.

When it came to the race itself, his rivals tried hard to catch him out in the early stages but, once Dan settled, he pulled away for a conclusive win – and the Welsh title!

Dan told The GEM: "I would like to thank the Delta Karting Team for their engine preparation and help over the weekend."

"Also, my father deserves a big thank you, as he is also my mechanic!"

Philip Irwin

READ YOUR  
GEM ONLINE:  
[bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk)  
[or porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)

## YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



ABOVE:  
Maesteg children's  
choir with Carwyn  
Jones, First Minister  
on the left, and Enid  
Sian Hughes (musical  
director) and Ryan  
Wood (accompanist) on  
the right in Cardiff City  
Hall on March 1.

### NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:  
If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.  
I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL  
1 Ty'n-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ  
TEL: 01656 725399  
email: [tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk)



exhibitions held at the Persondy, Aberkenfig, on centre; they are St the second Wednesday of Roberts RC primary, the month at 2pm. The next meeting is on June 9 when the speaker will be Tondu primary and Pandys infants.

Members of the society have also helped students at St Roberts with art practice. It helps judge the annual Christmas card competition organised by Newcastle Higher Community Council, for local schools.

The choir will be putting on their 24th annual concert at Maesteg Town Hall, Talbot Street, Maesteg at 7pm on July 2.

In the first concert there were only 20 choristers; the choir now consists of 45 choristers.

The concert, titled 'From Broadway to Boogie', will be a demonstration of music from the 1970s. The compère for the evening will be Tony Mullins, a fine bass singer. Tickets £5/£3 adults/children and can be obtained from the town hall, or by phoning Sian on 01656 732385.

The concert, titled 'From Broadway to Boogie', will be a demonstration of music from the 1970s. The compère for the evening will be Tony Mullins, a fine bass singer. Tickets £5/£3 adults/children and can be obtained from the town hall, or by phoning Sian on 01656 732385.

The entertainment will be provided by the Band and Corps of Drums of South Wales Police, Garv Valley male choir (Cor Meibion Cwm Garv) and Swansea Bay choir.

Tickets can be obtained from Alistair on 07530 667019 or Major Wayne Morgan MBE secretary on 01656 669872.

Three pupils have been invited to attend a presentation evening for Bridgend Schools at the Bridgend Recreation Centre on June 18 at 6.30pm to which all past and present members are invited at Sarn Life Long Learning Centre.

The association has provided 33 years' service to the community, including 27 years of managing the facilities at Sam Life Long Learning Centre.

It is a completely separate organisation to St Bride's Minor Community Council, with which it is often confused by members of the public.

**Art society**  
TONDU and District Art Society meets on Tuesdays evenings from 7pm-9pm at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig.

The society encourages schools to attend their summer and winter

choir from the Swansea area Dunvant.

### Fundraiser

OGMORE Valley primary school after school club – the Ogmores Jets – is organised by Mrs Sian Farmer and Mrs Irene Jones, who would like to thank everyone who attended their fundraising night on May 8.

A fantastic time was had by all and the event raised a grand total of more than £500. They would like to thank the members of the social club, and their committee, for the donation of £50. Also, special thanks to Dangerously Done (who performed for no charge and kept everyone dancing all evening) and everyone who donated raffle prizes and bought tickets.

### Nature lessons

YEAR-3 at Tondu primary school were taken for an open air lesson to the South Wales and West Wildlife Trust nature reserve at Parc Slip last Thursday.

As an aside, I saw Miss Handley leading them up the hill to the reserve, and I would like to say the children were well behaved and kept close to the grass verge to face oncoming traffic as they walked up the hill, two abreast. They were a credit to the school.

### Well done!

I TOOK my dog through Newbridge Fields, Bridgend, last weekend – everywhere was lovely and green.

I was pleased to notice a young gentleman with his girlfriend picking up any litter they spotted as they walked.

Well done to them for making the environment more pleasurable for others!

It was also nice to see nine newly-hatched ducklings with their mother on the river.

# NEW BOOK IS A FOND ELEGY TO PAST GLORIES OF A SEASIDE TOWN...



FAIRGROUND MUSIC

*The World of Porthcawl Parades* (See David Minchin's Images on page 10)

REVIEW by PHILIP IRWIN

**PORTHCAWL**  
Town Council occasionally presents town plaques to local people who have been of service to the community.

Who knows, there may come a time when they present one to Robert Minchinick – for his efforts in mythologising the town – and his latest book, *Fairground Music*, a joint effort with photographer Eamon Bourke, is a good example.

The book is an elegy to Porthcawl's Coney Beach fairground and where many people see merely a down-at-heel amusement park that has seen better days, Minchinick sees a place that is rich in history, dreams and mythology.

Bourke's photographs concentrate on the fair, and on Coney and Sandy Bay beaches, while the book's narrator, a fictional local who has spent many years scouring those beaches with his metal detector, tells tall tales about his discoveries.

Anyone who has lived in Porthcawl, has visited Porthcawl, or who just might have passed through, has left a memento in the sands for Minchinick's Munchausen.

He has found St David's crozier (lost when his coracle tipped over), a brass medusa (left behind by a Roman mercenary) or (my favourite) – Howard Winston's gold tooth,



knocked out when Howard took a beating from the Cuban, Jose Legra!

Of course, the Howard Winston reference recalls those days when Porthcawl did host British and world title bouts, and Robert Minchinick's words hark back to days when the town was very different.

His 'mythologising' does remind the reader that Porthcawl once occupied a very different place in society.

When I finished the book, I found myself thinking about those times. About how for a working man or woman in a dark satanic mill, a metal-bashing factory or in a three-foot seam in a coal mine, a holiday in Porthcawl must have been a magical fort-

night. In those days, people would have returned home and dreamt about Porthcawl. It is hard to envisage now, but plenty of those dreamers went away and set their hearts on one day moving to the town – and many of them did just that.

The two collaborators on this book had, let's face it, an unequal task.

For the author, his words were limited only by his imagination.

There are plenty of occasions when his tongue is firmly in his cheek, but he does paint a picture of a town that is (just about) recognisable as Porthcawl.

As the photographer, it is a little tougher for Eamon Bourke. His raw material is not so easy to idealise and

romanticise. There are some beautiful landscape shots, usually featuring the sea, and there are some striking photos of holiday makers.

However, the fair is what it is now – and there are plenty of shots that show it falls well short of the magical.

The writer weighs in again here, portraying life at Coney Beach as a never-ending struggle between metal fixtures and sand, salt and corrosion.

The photos, however, let you know which is Jose Legra – and which is Howard Winston.

*Fairground Music* is published by Gomer Press, and is available from SUSED, John Street, Porthcawl, and from good local bookshops.

Some of the photographs by Eamon Bourke that are featured in the book.



## Charity golf day

A PYLE-BASED youth charity is looking for entries for its charity golf day later this month.

KPC Youth, the charity for young people in Cynffig, is holding its 12th annual charity golf event on Friday, June 18, at the Grove Golf Club.

Entry for a team of four is just £150 per team, including bar meal and evening entertainment – with the fab-

ulous local Porthcawl Band – Scarlet & The Pimp!

Entry and payment should be sent to KPC Youth before Monday, June 7.

Tickets will also be available for just the evening entertainment and disco at The Grove (cost £5).

For further details, contact Alison on 01656 749219, or e-mail to: [kpcyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:kpcyouth@hotmail.com).

We hope you can join us!

## Local wildlife trust welcomes new members and volunteers

A LEADING south Wales wildlife trust, which looks after a local nature reserve in Tondu, is looking for volunteers to support its work.

The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (WTSWW) is dedicated to improving the environment for people and wildlife, and looks after

Parc Slip Nature Reserve, in Tondu.

A spokeswoman for the trust explained that the trust is a charity that relies heavily on support from members and volunteers to manage and conserve more than 80 nature reserves across south and west Wales, including local sites such as Lavernock Point, Coed Garnllwyd and Coed y Bwl.

She continued: "If you have an interest in wildlife and would like to help us protect our local wildlife and environment, then please consider supporting your local wildlife trust."

"You can help by making a small donation, becoming a member or taking part in some voluntary work."

"Members of the trust receive our magazine 'Welsh Wildlife' – along with our local

newsletter and calendar of events three times per year, and also half price landing fees on Skomer Island (another of the reserves managed by WTSWW).

"Alternatively you can find out more by visiting our website [www.welshwildlife.org](http://www.welshwildlife.org) or by telephoning 01656 724100."

## Don (68) is running on doctor's orders!

AN AVID runner and veteran of many races, including half marathons, Don Grinnell is already training for his next race, the five kilometre run at the Bridgend Lions Festival of Races on June 19.

At first sight there's nothing remarkable about that, except that the retired quarry worker will be 68 this month and he started running just three years ago!

Don, who lives in Brynffrion with his wife, Barbara, had never been running but he was challenged to a race while working out at the recreation centre's gym, where he had been referred by his GP in 2007 to sort out arthritis and weight issues.

After a lot of thought he took up the challenge, discovered the joy of running, a great outdoor pastime and new-found healthy lifestyle.

That's pretty amazing for someone who was once a 30-a-day smoker at a time when the pipe, slippers and crossword beckon for many.

The 5K race Don is entering is the climax of an afternoon of races which will see the town centre cordoned off to make a circuit around the town.

There will be a 50-



Don Grinnell, in his festival T-shirt, is training for the race.

yard sprint track in the able online at main shopping area of www.blfor.co.uk or by telephone on 01656 661338, and commemorative T-shirts will be given to all who pre-book their entry.

DJ

## Matt free falls to help heroes



### Musical trail...

LOCAL schoolchildren will be calling the tune when a new musical trail is opened in Margam Country Park this summer.

The trail will feature giant musical instruments made from a tree felled within the park as part of an exciting woodland project called Wood Vibrations.

Local schoolchildren will be creating their own individual instruments from the same Margam tree and will take part in a parade along the new trail during a celebration day on July 13.

It is part of a project by the Forestry Commission.

MATT KING, from Nottingham, to take part in the skydive to raise money for the charity Help for Heroes. The day raised £34,000.

Matt said:

"Skydiving with the Red Devils for Help for Heroes was, without doubt, the best thing I have ever done."

"No words can describe the feeling you get freefalling at 120 mph from such a distance. It was a totally amazing experience."



**COMMUNITY NEWS**  
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL  
*Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 863003*

Ch u r c h closed week celebrate their golden wedding.

Best wishes from all club members.

**Concert** TICKETS are still available for the Minnesingers' (traveling singers) concert which will take place on Friday, June 18, at 7.30pm at St Canna's Church, Llangan.

Tickets £6 to include a raffle. Telephone 01656 862965 or 01656 646490.

# Cowbridge boy is bound for the Henley Regatta



THE annual National Schools Regatta took place at the National Watersports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham.

It is a massive event with nearly 4,000 competitors competing over three days at age groups from under-14 to under-18 in more than 50 events.

The weather at the lake is notorious and this year was no exception, with rain on and off all day on the Saturday, although mercifully calm, unlike Sunday, when the blustery conditions put continued racing in doubt at one point and made the lane draw

ABOVE: Monmouth School First VIII. Cowbridge's Tom Brock, fourth from the left.

critical.

Fortunately for crews in each semi qualifying for the final, he was racing on Monmouth's confidence Saturday in the No 3 seat in Monmouth School's First VII. The event had 22 entries, which meant a time trial was held, with the fastest 12 qualifying for places in two semi-finals.

Exceeding all expectations, Monmouth posted the fastest time and had the choice centre lane draw for their semi.

Exhorted by their coach Rob Howe for more of the same, the boys did their vociferous parents proud, winning their semi-final and beating Eton into second place.

Every sinew was

being stretched, the coxes were screaming for one last push, but it was Eton who had slightly more in the tank and just got away to win gold.

Nevertheless, it was a Herculean effort by the Monmouth lads, whose reward, apart from their silver medals, should now be automatic qualification for the Henley Royal Regatta at the end of the month. **HB**

## COFFEE MORNING

*THE Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian will be holding a coffee morning in the Mayor's Parlour on Saturday, June 5 in aid of Cowbridge Comprehensive 2010.*

*Coffee mornings will be held on the first Saturday of each month throughout the year to coincide with the opening days of the museum.*

*The mayor said: "Janet and I look forward to serving many cups of coffee and tea on these occasions."*

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## NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE ROTARIANS

### Members make donations to three worthy causes

RIGHT:  
President  
Colin  
Jones;  
Jayne  
Evans (of  
Duchenne)  
and three  
members  
of Interact.



LAST Monday saw three presentations and an excellent speaker at Cowbridge Rotary Club.

Geoff Hughes, who worked for 27 years in the Prison Service, gave a witty and very interesting talk on the operation of the service and his experiences, particularly as a prison governor.

The guests had many questions for the speaker, reflecting the high level of interest in Geoff's talk.

He plans to raise £10,000 for Velindre Cancer Care with a walk up Mount Kilimanjaro.

President Colin Jones, presented a cheque for £100 towards his project and also presented a cheque for £300 to Jayne Evans of 'Action Duchenne'.

The sum of £280 was raised by the Cowbridge Interact Club, formed a year ago in the Cowbridge

Comprehensive Sixth Form. The money was raised from a sponsored walk up Pen-y-fan in the Brecon Beacons. Three members of the Interact Club attended the meeting; two joint-presidents and the secretary.

Jayne Evans is an aunt of Saul, the local boy, whose case captured the hearts of GEM readers and led to the founding of 'Action Duchenne'.

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is a shocking condition which devastates families across the world in their thousands. Most families affected have never even heard of the condition, until they are facing a doctor telling them that their seemingly perfect child has Duchenne.

Usually, children are around the age of five when they are diagnosed, although here in Wales, newborn screening can pick up the condition when a baby is just weeks old. The shock and heartbreak the diagnosis brings is almost beyond description.

Imagine for just a minute being told that your own son, baby brother, nephew or grandchild may appear well, but will actually lose the ability to walk and that he will need a

wheelchair before he is 10 years old.

There is currently no treatment, so with the diagnosis comes one certainty: 100 per cent fatality rate. Life expectancy for a child with Duchenne is just late teens early twenties. Duchenne remains the largest genetic child killing condition worldwide.

The charity Action Duchenne was set up in 2001 by parents and supporters to change the course of this deadly condition, and finally we are seeing the work of the charity making some very real changes happen.

It is the only UK charity focusing exclusively on Duchenne and its milder variant Beckers. We fund research projects and campaign for better standards of care for those affected.

There are now two clinical trials ongoing here in the UK and sev-



ABOVE:  
Colin Jones presents Geoff Hughes with the cheque.

eral others worldwide, trying out new drugs which aim to at least slow down the rate of muscle wasting which Duchenne brings.

There are other research projects in the pipeline. To date, Action Duchenne has funded nine such projects. It has just invested £1.2 million to further one line of exciting research

which we hope to see becoming a very real treatment as quickly as possible.

President Colin presented a certificate to Elspeth Bisson, president of the Interact Club, in recognition of the money raised in February for the Rotary world-wide 'Purple Pinkie' project to eradicate polio.

### Relationship breakdown – putting your children first



#### Relationship breakdown – putting your children first

The law dealing with relationship breakdown and children is a gift to family lawyers in that it makes the children the first, only and last consideration. Whatever we advise our clients, we must also focus on what is in the best interests of the children. The problem is that there are usually two parents with completely opposing ideas of what is in the best interests of their children, often both full of love and acting with the best possible intentions. This is where a gifted family lawyer can help parents through fear, distress and anger, encourage them to put themselves in their children's shoes and make decisions that truly ARE in their best interests.

#### Five things your children will thank you for:

##### Don't kid yourself

Children learn everything they need to know about relationships from their parents. What does a house filled with tension and resentment teach them? Children don't think their parents for staying together 'for them'. Two happy homes with fulfilled and committed parents are much better than one miserable one.

##### ...or them

If it's over, be honest. Tell them in an age appropriate way what is going to change and a little bit about why. Involving them, especially if you feel that you can both tell children about the changes together, will take away some of the fear and unsettling feelings. Make sure everything comes with lots and lots of reassurance about how much they are loved by both of you.

##### Be flexible

Try to keep as much of the old routine in place as possible but make sure that there are settled arrangements for children to be with both parents as soon as practical. Children are remarkably resilient and adapt to all sorts of changes so do not panic.

If one parent isn't turning up to contact sessions, birthday parties or swimming lessons, address it with them yourself or with a solicitor if you feel unable. It may be that it could be easily sorted with some flexibility on both parts. If it gets worse, don't lie to children. Don't be brutal but honesty is kinder than pretence in the long run.

##### Don't dish the dirt

You might try your hardest not to argue in front of your children but you can guarantee that they will soak up every negative feeling like little sponges. Try to be civil and if you really can't speak to each other use email or agree to use your solicitors to contact each other for a cooling off period.

Remember Mum will always be Mum and Dad will always be Dad. Things get very complicated for children if they feel conflicted in loving one parent when the other says that he or she is a bad person.

##### Accept you are going to be in each other's lives as parents. Full stop.

As soon as parents get their heads around this, everything becomes easier. You might not love each other and you might not agree on much but you both still love and want the best for your children.

A good children law specialist ultimately will help parents realise that the best people to make decisions about children is their parents.

#### Need Help? – For help with the legal aspects of divorce and relationship breakdown,

call Kathryn McTaggart on  
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Kathryn offers a free half hour consultation. Find out more by visiting

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# Town council support arts centre proposal



ABOVE: Jennings Building, which overlooks the harbour.

**PORHCAWL** Town Council has welcomed plans to turn the old Jennings Building at Porthcawl Harbour into a gallery and studio for local artists.

A report was presented to the council from the Oriel Visual Arts group (OVA) proposing that a visual arts centre be established in the town to cater for the many artists living locally.

It would also be a venue for tourists and visitors with a gallery, shop and café. The group would like to take over Jennings Building which is a listed building lying at the heart of the town's regeneration area.

Failing that, they would seek either a new build as part of the regeneration, or some provision in the town such as a converted chapel.

Such a centre would provide studio space which artists could rent, as well as a sales room for their work. Other crafts would also be accommodated, as well as general arts projects including music, poetry and writing.

The centre would be used all year around and would give tourists to the

town an additional destination.

Coun Chris Smart said that it was a very exciting project. He said: "We received a very comprehensive report from the group behind this venture and they are to be congratulated on an excellent report."

"It is a forward-looking project and Porthcawl is a suitable location because art is thriving in the town. We have some very successful arts groups here and a lot of people are involved in art."

Coun John Bunker also backed the plan and said that Porthcawl was a town well known for its support of the arts in many different forms.

The council voted to back the scheme in principle, but at the moment there are no costings, so the amount of money needed is unknown.

Jean Floe, who is chairman of the group, has been invited to speak to councillors and give a further presentation at a future meeting.

In the meantime, the plan has also been sent to BCBC officers to see if the proposal can be included within the Porthcawl Regeneration Strategy.

## Local kart racer Tom heads the British championship race

**BUDGING** young kart racing star, Tom Harvey, overcame tyre woes in qualifying to storm to another double victory, this time in Nutts Corner in Ireland.

"It's a really flowing and exciting circuit," said the 12-year-old Cowbridge High School pupil. "You don't get a break at all, which is what I like most about it – it's a real drivers' track."

Quickest in practice among the 31-strong MSA Cadet class field, a bad batch of tyres during the wet qualifying session the following day left Tom an unaccustomed and unrepresenta-



Tom Harvey.

tive 19th, battling against a dire lack of grip.

"I was doing an anti-rain dance!" he quipped.

"I was so happy when I woke up on Sunday and it was dry. In heat two, I got an amazing start up to fifth, and then I just worked my way through into the lead and hung onto it to the end. I was really pleased with that, because Nutts isn't a track where you can overtake easily."

"I began the first final 11th, and made up nine places at the start to move into second, and then I pushed the leader all the way to make it a two-horse race rather than have eight or nine of us all battling over it. Midway through, his kart began to grip-up and I got past and was able to pull out a gap."

"The second final was a bit more of a dogfight. I was starting from the front this time, but the top seven kept swapping places during the race – if you missed a braking-point, the rest would be gone, so I had to be really precise."

It was an incredible turnaround from how things had looked post-qualifying, and means not only that Tom remains unbeaten in the last four national finals – a magnificent achievement in itself – but also that he now leads both British Championships, by eight points in Super 1 and 18 in FKS.

**Read your GEM online at:**  
[bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk) or [porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)

## Local author's book launch

THE public is invited to the launch of a new book of photographs and text that celebrates Porthcawl fair-ground.

*Fairground Music: the World of Porthcawl Funfair* (Gomer), by Robert Minchinick and Eamon Bourke, is launched with readings, new music and film, at the Bayside suite, Hi Tide Inn, Mackworth Street, Porthcawl, at 8pm, Wednesday, June 23. Entrance is free and all are welcome.

Author Robert Minchinick says of *Fairground Music*: "I think it is a vivid celebration of a place that merits celebration. The images by Eamon Bourke take us to the soul of the fair, and I hope my text recreates a fairground atmosphere."

New music for the launch has been composed by Richard Thomas and Peter Morgan, and the evening will feature a screening of Eamon Bourke's 30-minute film, *Coney Beach*.

Robert Minchinick added: "This is an exciting multi-media event, organised as part of the new initiative from Sustainable Wales, 'Arts for the Earth'. We hope the public supports it."

*Fairground Music from Gomer Press is already on sale at £14.99 and other book-sellers. Further details: Sustainable Wales 01656 783405 or [mm@sustainablewales.org.uk](mailto:mm@sustainablewales.org.uk)*

*The book is reviewed on page 7 of this issue of The GEM.*

## Porthcawl estate agent says 'good riddance' to HIPs

**ONE OF THE LEADING** estate agents in south Wales has welcomed news that the government is to scrap HIPs.

Home Information Packs (HIPs) are being done away with by the incoming government and Porthcawl estate agent David Deere said that it was a good move. He said: "The cost of these packs, up to £500 a throw, has deterred people from putting their properties on the market and I expect to see an increase in the number of houses that will be available for prospective buyers."

"HIPs were a complete and utter waste of money. Nobody has ever

## Hospital fete day

**THE** Maesteg Hospital fete takes place on Wednesday, June 16, at the cricket ground, and it gets underway from about 2pm onwards with the usual stalls and attractions.

The precursor this year, once again, will be a concert in the marquee. The hospital league of friends decided to get their money's worth out of the marquee a few years ago by holding a concert in it the night before the fete, and these concerts have been very successful.

This year, the Tuesday night concert on June 15 will be given by the singing group Allegro, soloist Nikki Casey and Maesteg Amateur Operatic Society. It starts at 7pm and tickets are available on 01656 754221, or pay on the night.

asked to see one since they came in two years ago. People who were buying a house took no notice of them whatsoever, and they still had to pay for a building society valuation.

"I feel sorry for people who have been forced to pay for them in order to sell their homes."

Mr Deere runs T Elwood Deere with his sister Rosemary. The firm was founded by their grandfather, T Elwood Deere.

## Army experts put St Clare's pupils through their paces!



Mr Rees dons his pack.



Alex Davies and Kimberley Davies with camouflage face paint.



Libby and Lyndsey consider the assault course.



Katy Seldon and Simmi Patel tasting army cuisine.

## Rent demand outstrips supply

**A LACK OF SUPPLY** is pushing rents higher, signalling a revival in the Welsh lettings market, according to the latest RICS Lettings Survey.

A spokeswoman reports: "Rental prices have risen significantly in the first quarter of 2010, 22 percent more chartered surveyors reported a rise rather than a fall in rental prices compared to just one per cent more who reported a fall rather than a rise in the previous quarter."

"Surveyors are optimistic that rents will continue to rise with the rental expectations net balance climbing from 30 to 41 per cent – the highest figure recorded in the survey's history."

"The more positive picture for rents can be attributed, in part, to the decline in the supply of flats and houses in the Welsh marketplace: 29 per cent more chartered surveyors reported a fall rather than a rise in the number of new landlord instructions."

"Moreover, the news that buy to let specialists are beginning to lend again may also encourage investors to return to the market."

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## Vale Probus Club trip 'sees that west is best!'

MEMBERS and partners of the Vale Probus Club are shown (LEFT) at the finish of a Ladies Day excursion to west Wales recently, at the behest of this year's chairman, John Meredith, who was delighted to be able to show off his home turf!

A coffee stop at Cwmcerrig Farm, near Cross Hands, lunch in Narberth and then a tour of Picton Castle and gardens in the afternoon were enjoyed by all. The day fin-

ished with a lively meal, courtesy of the Trio Brasserie.

In its 12 years' existence, the club (which currently has 45 members) has a regular programme of monthly meetings and occasional visits.

A trip to Flat Holm in the summer and the National Museum of Contemporary Industry in early autumn are already arranged.

Visitors and guests are always welcome at the meetings in the Duke of Wellington, Cowbridge, on the last Tuesday of every month.

AF

## Surgeon's formidable challenge is Tour de France Alpine ascent

A CONSULTANT surgeon at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, is tackling a mammoth cycling challenge to raise cash for the children's hospice, Ty Hafan.

In fact, it is very much a case of one thing leading to another, because last year he had his first outing in the saddle, when he cycled from London to Paris for charity.

Richard told The GEM: "I enjoyed that ride so much, and it proved to be a great way of keeping fit, so this year I aimed a bit higher."

To be precise, that would about 1,200 metres higher, because this time he is to cycle from London to



**LEFT:**  
Surgeon Richard Hedges at work and  
**(RIGHT)**  
in training for his cycling challenge.  
1,232 metres to be conquered.

Richard Hedges joined the Princess of Wales 18 years ago, and specialises in arthroscopic surgery.

After seeing the effect of an unhealthy lifestyle first hand in the operating theatre, he has always kept reasonably fit.

He has remained in trim by surfing, and is an active member of the Southend Surf Life Saving Club.

However, the cycling tests have made new demands on him. He said: "When I did the first ride, I was



nervous – in case all the other riders were experts, but in the end I was safely in the pack of 21 who cycled to Paris."

This year's ride has that major difference –

the ascent in the Alps. Richard is doing his best to prepare, and is a regular sight on the Bwlch mountain road – which, unfortunately, is not quite as high as the Alps.

He said: "I really can recommend cycling as a great form of exercise, and it is great to be able to do something to help Ty Hafan."

"Its work is invaluable and I am keen to raise as much sponsorship as possible."

To sponsor Richard Hedges, visit the online fundraising page on [www.justgiving.com/richard-hedges](http://www.justgiving.com/richard-hedges)

Payment can be made by credit card or debit card.

The money will go directly to Ty Hafan.

## Paula shows troops that 'Orchard' cares!

PAULA CHAMP, a worker at Orchard House residential home, Colcot Road, Barry, recently decided to send gift boxes to British troops in Afghanistan.

To her "amazement", she was soon up to 50 boxes – and the home threw a celebration party when the total reached 100 last weekend.

Paula said she wanted to thank the management, staff, residents, residents' families and all who took part in filling the boxes.

She has received letters from the troops, thanking the people of Orchard House for caring, and for making their service there more bearable.



ABOVE: Paula Champ (in uniform) with Betty Pratt (front) and back left, Myra Walters and Mavis Wood.

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# Festive recall as local schools collect their card recycling prizes



**Ysgol Erw'r Delyn**  
wins top spot  
in the special  
school category.

THE winners of the Vale Council's popular Christmas card recycling project were announced this week.

Topping the primary school category for the third year was St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School in Penarth; while St Richard Gwyn Roman Catholic High School also returned as winners in the secondary school category.

Ysgol Erw'r Delyn held on to the title of special school winner – and also doubled the number of cards collected compared to last year with a massive 46,000 – an average of 834 per pupil!

In the individual categories, Jack Powell from Stanwell Comprehensive School scooped the secondary school card champion's prize.

Jamie Gordon from Ysgol Erw'r Delyn again won the top special school pupil accolade with an astonishing 39,200 cards – more than double the amount he collected last year.

Georgia Lees from Holton Primary School stopped counting her cards when she reached 36,000 to again win the top primary slot.

This year, a special merit award was also given to Josh Hurley from Ashgrove School for his 37,000 card total.



ABOVE: Special school champ Jamie Gordon with Councillor Cox and Hampton and acting head teacher Lynda Gyton.

## Llandough fete promises lots of fun!

LLANDOUGH Community Council and local organisations will be holding their annual village fete on Saturday, June 12, from 2pm in King George V Memorial Playing Fields, off Leckwith Road.

The afternoon will include

attractions for all the family, featuring music from the Dinas Powys Ecumenical Seven; magic and balloons from Mr T-Ricks; a display from the Desert Divas Belly Dancers; free classic bus rides; classic bikes; steam train demonstration; pet com-

petition; children's races; a petanque demonstration; fire engine and music/dancing from the Llandough Primary School.

A wide range of stalls will be available, with refreshments in the marquee.

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## NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

### PUPILS' CILT CYMRU LANGUAGE AWARD



Some of the winners with Miss Evans, Kristina Hedges (Cilt Cymru) and Laurie Foucherand.

RECENTLY, Miss Evans and Laurie Foucherand (the French assistant) accompanied a group of year-10 and 11 students to the CILT Cymru awards ceremony at the Optic Technium centre in St Asaph, north Wales.

A spokesperson reports: The pupils had reached the finals of their category and the runners-up

and the winners were invited. Unfortunately, not all students were able to attend.

To gain the award, pupils produced a timeline and DVD, a calendar and a photo filled power point presentation. The ceremony was organised by the British Council (Wales) and CILT Cymru.

Miss Evans, Laurie and the pupils were "thrilled" to hear that they had won the CILT Cymru 'Get to know your Language Assistant' award. The winners

were Caelum Davies, Chris Jones, George Scott and Liam Hodges (time-line and DVD), Ieuan Thomas, Sam Rimell (Calendar) and Alex Johns, Drew Simpson, Scott Nelson, Ian Crapnell (power point).

During the day, pupils learnt some Polish and German and they also did some salsa dancing and Tai Chi. The long journey had been worthwhile and Miss Evans and the languages faculty are extremely proud of the students.

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## Penarth fundraising event will help save children's sight...



**ABOVE:**  
Rita Rees of Barclays Bank Penarth with Ken Jones of Penarth 41 Club, receiving his raffle prize from Bill Christensen and Ann Marie Ablett, volunteer nurse and ORBIS Ambassador.

**RIGHT:**  
Ann Marie, with Bill, receiving a cheque from Dave Wilshire, president of Dinas Powys Rotary Club.

RITA REES, an employee of Barclays Bank in Penarth, recently took part in a charity function at the Sea-Shore Grill & Café Bar in Swanbridge.

More than £1,700 was raised for ORBIS UK, the charity with a flying eye hospital which provides sight-saving operations and medication to young children with cataracts, trachoma, glaucoma and eye disease, together with special training for medical professionals.

Barclays then matched the funds raised under the employee £ for £ scheme.

Cathy Brown, community manager, said: "At Barclays, we are committed to communities and we are delighted to be able to achieve something which we hope will make a real and lasting difference."

The funds raised will enable the volunteers at 'ORBIS' to carry out 3,000 cataract operations, or treat 10,000 children with antibiotics.

If the children are not treated by the

time they reach six years of age, they will often become permanently blind.

Bill Christensen of Dinas Powys Rotary Club, vice-chairman of Penarth 41 Club and fund raiser for 'ORBIS' said he was "absolutely delighted with the result, which will help save the sight of thousands of babies and young children."

Bill is "extremely grateful" and thanks Barclays Bank, Penarth 41 Club, Dinas Powys Rotary and Waterstones Books for their support, not forgetting the rest of his friends and guests, who experienced an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

He also praised generous donations from Pietro of the Manor House, and Gordon Hadfield owner of the Seashore Grill and his staff for their hospitality. Excellent entertainment for the evening was provided by the band of Tony Morley and his 'Little Giants'. Further information on ORBIS can be obtained from their website [www.orbis.org.uk](http://www.orbis.org.uk)

## Bafta glory! Local costume designer scoops a top award

A COWBRIDGE woman, Ffion Elinor, is celebrating after scooping the prestigious BAFTA Cymru 2010 prize for 'Best Costume Design'.

She beat off tough competition to win the award for S4C's *Ar Y Tracs* film which was written by, and starred, *Gavin and Stacey* actress Ruth Jones.

However, Ffion is no stranger to the glitz and glamour of the showbiz world, having worked in the industry for many years, designing costumes on feature films for such Hollywood royalty as Wesley Snipes, David Schwimmer, Colin Firth and Naomi Watts.

Although she won a BAFTA for *Hearts of Gold* in 2003, winning this award was a personal triumph, as *Ar Y Tracs* was her first foray back into film and television work since taking three years out to raise her two young children - Mali (five) and Wil (two) - and to marry her long-term partner Leigh

Jones. Ffion said: "I was as surprised as anyone else when my name was called out. I had to double take, but it's a great honour as the winners are chosen by fellow industry professionals."

"Working with Ruth Jones was great fun and to win this award is the icing on the cake."

"I had a stunning bouquet from Ruth and her husband David the following day, which was very touching."

"Having made the decision to take a career break to raise my family, I was nervous about going back to work, but to come back after three years and to win a BAFTA, is a real boost to my confidence."

"Raising a family is a tough job, but the rewards are incredible and, in a similar vein, working in the film and television business has its challenges."

"Winning this BAFTA feels like real recognition for the hard work and it at least gives me something new to polish on the mantelpiece!"

## New community bus for the Vale

A new community transport service for the Vale is being launched on Friday at Dyffryn Gardens.

The Greenlinks Community Transport Service offers a 13-seat mini bus which has been adapted for wheelchair users. It is available for use by all residents and community groups in the rural Vale.

Users could vary from an individual needing to attend an appointment, a junior football team needing transport to an away game or an arts group going to an exhibition.

The project has been funded by the Rural Development Plan for Wales which in turn is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. It is administered by Creative Rural Communities.

## At last! A new lease of life for the Pumphouse

NEWS that one of Barry's most familiar landmark buildings will be renovated at a cost of £1 million has been welcomed by local campaigners, but they are keen to know what it will house.

The Vale Council has announced that the Pumphouse will be restored by John Weaver (Contractors) Ltd and will be overseen by conservation architects Acanthus Holden Architects.

A council spokeswoman said: "It will undergo a £1 million external restoration to ensure the building is saved as an important part of Barry and Wales' industrial heritage. The project is being funded by the Vale Council and Welsh Assembly Government."

Listed by CADW as one of the few hydraulic pumphouses remaining in Wales, the Pumphouse formed part of Barry's dock complex and remains an important local landmark, with its imposing 42 metre chimney.

Built during the 1880s it provided hydraulic power to operate coal docks, lock gates, swing bridges and other equipment around the docks.

The building comprises two parts, the north and south ranges. When operating a century ago the north range would have contained workshops and hydraulic controls.

The south range would have contained boilers and steam-powered



**ABOVE:** The Pumphouse is in line for a £1million external renovation.

engines. Completion of necessary internal restoration works to make it attractive to the market."

Dilys Colbourne of Barry Citizens' Action Group said she favoured the Pumphouse for a use that will benefit the area

"It should be a multi-purpose venue with a heritage centre which details the local history including our maritime past, a gift shop which

quickly focuses on the building's final purpose.

Paul Haley of Pride in Barry said: "The Pumphouse is an iconic building and needs to be the centrepiece of the Waterfront heritage, which needs to be able to tell the story of the former Barry Docks."

"I note that this announcement is for 'external restoration' and wonder therefore what further monies will be

"Its location, near to the heritage railway and Barry Island, would stimulate tourism.

"We need an indoor attraction for visitors to go to when there is bad weather," she added.

## AM welcomes safety crossing

REGIONAL AM safety, especially for young people and people with walking difficulties. It can also make life easier for motorists.

"It is good to see we have started to make progress at this location."

### ST JOHN CONCERT

THE St John's Council in the Vale presents Mid-summer Music, featuring the South Wales Police Band at 7pm on Thursday, June 10, in Dyffryn Gardens, St Nicholas.

For tickets, contact Basil Watkins on 01446 774448. Proceeds are in aid of St John Ambulance in the Vale.

## Roadworks report

Plassey Street, junctions with Glebe Street, Ludlow Lane, Ludlow Street, Arcott Street and Windsor Road, Penarth - carriageway width restrictions.

Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant, Barry - footway restriction in place. Gladstone Road Bridge to the Barry Waterfront - traffic management.

## Coffee morning

AGE CONCERN'S Western Vale Good Neighbour Scheme is holding a coffee morning on Thursday, June 10 at the Llantony Hall, Boerton Road, Llantwit Major, from 10am-12pm.

Admission is £1.50 and includes coffee, tea and biscuits - plus top-ups. There will be a variety of stalls - home-made cakes, tombola, bric a brac, plants and a raffle. Proceeds will go towards the good neighbour scheme.

Brian Lee

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FEATURE**

# National Glaucoma Awareness Week

JUNE 7-13, 2010

'50 PER CENT NOT AWARE OF THEIR CONDITION'

## ONLY AN EYE TEST CAN DETECT GLAUCOMA...

**IT is estimated that at least one in 50 people aged over 40 are at risk of having glaucoma, which is one of the leading causes of preventable blindness in the UK today.**

A spokesman for National Glaucoma

### Glaucoma support

**THE Princess of Wales Hospital Glaucoma Patient Support Group's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 23, from 2pm-4pm.**

*It will be held at the Residents' Community Hall, Princess of Wales Hospital.*

*There will be a discussion of DVLA standards; a film of a trabeculectomy operation; and a talk about the RNIB national sibling awareness project.*

*Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be provided.*

Awareness Week, running this year from June 7-13, explained: "The shocking reality is that 50 per cent of people with glaucoma are currently unaware of their condition."

"In other words, potentially 250,000 people in Wales and England could easily be losing their sight at this moment because, in most cases, glaucoma has no symptoms in its early stages!"

One staggering statistic is that over the next 10 years, the number of people registered blind or partially-sighted because of glaucoma, will increase by about 25 per cent.

The spokesman pointed out:

"Unfortunately, this figure doesn't take into account all the individuals whose everyday life will also be affected by the condition but will not be registered."

National Glaucoma Awareness Week hopes to get two messages across – 'we are all at risk' and 'detection is the key'.

Some people are at increased risk, such as people over the age of 40, those with a family history of the condition, or people suffering from short sight, or diabetes. People who are of African-Caribbean origin could also be at increased risk.

The spokesman said: "During the awareness week, our aim is to

encourage everyone over the age of 40 to have a regular – once every two years – eye test that includes all three glaucoma tests: ophthalmoscopy, tonometry and perimetry."

"They should do this, whether or not they believe there is anything wrong with their vision."

The CEO of the International Glaucoma Association, David Wright, added: "A comprehensive eye test for glaucoma is painless, quick and amazingly good value for money, when compared with the

consequences of losing your vision."

"The eyes may or may not be the windows to the soul, but they are certainly a very important window through which only a skilled eye examiner can see a wide

range of important things to the benefit of the individual and society as a whole."

Glaucoma affects two per cent of the population over the age of 40, and accounts for 13-14 per cent of the people on the blind register in Wales and England.

Contact [www.glaucma-association.com](http://www.glaucma-association.com)

## Jones & Jones have dedicated glaucoma diagnostic clinics

**C**HRONIC glaucoma affects two per cent of the population over the age of 40, increasing to eight to 10 per cent over the age of 75.

A spokesman from Jones & Jones Optometrists explained: "There are about 500,000 people in Wales and England with glaucoma, and about 70 million worldwide.

"It is estimated that

up to 50 per cent of people with glaucoma are undiagnosed. There are no symptoms until extensive irreversible damage has occurred.

"Early diagnosis and treatment are essential in preventing irreversible vision loss."

To increase your chance of being diagnosed early, you should visit your optometrist at least every two years – or more frequently if you have a relative with first degree glaucoma.

There are three tests, and for some patients it may be available on the NHS; for others, there will be a charge".

*If you are concerned about the possibility of glaucoma, Jones & Jones Optometrists on High Street, Barry have dedicated glaucoma diagnostic and management clinics.*

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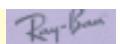
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**Expert caring advice offered**

*RIGHT: Head of the caring department Myra Thomas, students Lisa Watt, vice-principal Kay Martin, student Michelle Jones, and Care Council for Wales student funding manager Delor Brown.*



BARRY College has held the first of a series of events offering advice to people interested in a career in the care industry.

It included industry representatives, such as sector skills council the Care Council for Wales, as well as City & Guilds and the WJEC.

Wales Council for Care Student Funding manager, Delor Brown, said: "Events such as these give us a chance to make young people aware of the opportunities available in the Social Care sector, and what qualifications are needed."

WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to: [ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)

# Shed break-ins prompt Llantwit police warning

POLICE have warned householders in Llantwit Major to be vigilant, following a spate of break-ins at sheds and garages in the area.

PC Colin Malone told Llantwit Major Town Council that this was a summertime crime when thieves try to break in and steal gardening equipment which they can sell on.

He said that everyone should ensure that their sheds and garages are kept locked and that equipment should not be left lying around outside in the garden.

An incident had taken place in Llantwit Major in the early hours of a week last Saturday, following the rugby club dinner.

He said that some members of the club were involved, but declined to give further details. He said that the incident was currently under investigation.

• PC Malone told the council that a cannabis factory had been discovered in Llantwit. A rent-

ed house was re-possessed and the cannabis was discovered.

He said that police were trying to discover the identity of the ten-

ants who had rented the house.

• The recent fine weather has resulted in some incidents taking place at the beach in Llantwit

and officers were paying attention to that area.

• He said that over the past month there have been 26 crimes, of which 13 were detected.

## Future of new beach path is still uncertain

**THE future of the new path to Llantwit beach is still uncertain.**

Llantwit Major Town Council heard that no further information was available about whether or not funding was being provided by the Vale Council for this project.

Funding from the Welsh Assembly Government was lost because the Vale Council was unable to progress the scheme during the last financial year and WAG was unwilling to carry the money over.

Members heard from Coun Gwyn John at their last meeting that the scrutiny committee had recommended that the Vale Council meet the cost itself from its own resources if WAG will not change its mind. The

issue was due to be discussed by the Vale cabinet. Coun Bob Gant queried what was happening at this month's meeting of the town council: "We were told verbally that all issues had been resolved but we have not had that confirmed in writing."

Coun John said that there was not much to add: "I contacted the council leader after we heard that the Welsh Assembly Government would not carry the money over," he said.

"Coun Kemp stated that he would be asking officers for a full report. That report did not go to cabinet last week, but I do not know if it going to the next cabinet meeting. There are a number of issues that have not been addressed."

Coun Gant said that

the town council needs to move this matter along. "We are going around in circles. We should write to the chief executive."

Coun John said that the council should do that and refer to the scrutiny decision in the letter. "We are slowly losing our patience. Although we understand that WAG is not extending the grant, we have still not had that confirmed officially.

"What action does the Vale Council intend to take in view of their failure to deliver this footpath in the appropriate time scale? The onus must be on them."

"We need answers. It's as simple as that. It's nearly three months since that scrutiny meeting. We should ask for a reply within 10 days."

## NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

# Hot foot from Blaen Taff Fawr – all the way up to Pen y Fan

**O**n what turned out to be the hottest weekend so far this year, Val was joined by five walkers for the journey up to Pont ar Daf in the Brecon Beacons, where the car park was already very full.

Their aim was a slow amble up Pen y Fan. Two of the group had not climbed this mountain before.

Setting off across the Blaen Taff Fawr River that helps to feed the Beacons reservoir, they began to climb up what is commonly known as the 'tourist route'; passing a plaque near the bottom that informs walkers the Brecon Beacons were given to the National Trust by the Eagle Star Insurance Company in 1965.

The main track was already like the M4, with people wanting to get out and relax in the hot weather, have some

exercise and enjoy the views. The National Trust work very hard in an attempt to combat the vast erosion from the thousands of feet that walk the mountain paths ways each year.

Climbing gradually under hot sunshine the group ambled up the stony track, glad of the time to enjoy the panorama of the surrounding views. At the top, despite the heat, visibility was very clear and there was time to stop, point out and name the surrounding mountains for those who were new to the area.

Then they scrambled up Corn Du, which at a height of 873-metres is the second highest peak in the Beacons and its flat, anvil-shaped top is marked by a stone cairn. Having enjoyed the views, it was time to cross the saddle and climb the short distance up onto Pen y Fan.

Pen y Fan, meaning top peak or head of the place, standing at 886-metres (2,907-feet) above sea level is the highest peak in south

Wales. The twin peaks of Pen y Fan and Corn Du were referred to as Cadair Arthur – or Arthur's Chair and their outline against the sky-line gives the impression of a saddle.

On the flat broad summit, there were dozens of people and also families with young children – proving you are never too young or old to enjoy a mountain.

Reaching a checkpoint marked by a coloured sail, they found that money was being raised for the Help for Heroes charity, which gives help and support to wounded soldiers.

Val offered to go around the people with a collection box for voluntary donations and raised almost £30, which was most gratefully received.

Having reached the top, they took time for lunch before the descent during which they passed many weary entrants for the charity race that involved three climbs up the mountain-side, but in that heat it must have been exhaust-

ing and they should be congratulated.

On June 5, meet at 10am at the Barry Waterfront for an eight-mile moderate walk at Peterston and Pendyfan; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On June 6, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for a nine-mile moderate/hard walk at Llangynwyd and Mynydd Margam; contact Janet/John on 01446 418154.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walks log onto [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk) [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)

Rucksack badges, programmes and members' advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

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# Walkers welcome AM for Vale festival stroll



ABOVE and BELOW: Walking groups were out and about in the Vale on festival day.



**MORE than 300** walkers took part in the first ever Vale of Glamorgan Festival on the weekend of May 14–16, completing walks from a stroll to 11 miles in every corner of the county.

Walkers were drawn from the Vale, neighbouring counties, England, and overseas.

A supporter of Valeways over the past 11 years, Vale AM Jane Hutt, said the festival was clearly "a great success!"

Having taken part in the Michaelston Way Walk on Saturday afternoon, the Vale AM said all the ingredients were there to make this a major attraction in the annual calendar of successful festivals in Wales.

She said: "The Michaelston Way walk took us through the fields of Dinas Powys to the village church of Michaelston-le-pit, passing through Casehill Valeways, said: "We are Wood and past Cwm George. Led by experienced Valeways leaders, we enjoyed the walk, and our thanks must go to the many volunteers who

came together to make this happen."

"Without the support of volunteers from Valeways, Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers, Barbara Palmer and walks provided by Porthkerry and Cosmeston Country Parks and Dyffryn Gardens the festival would not have been possible.

"It brings visitors to Wales, provides business for local guest houses and hotels and gives local people the chance to enjoy well-planned walks over a weekend."

Gareth Simpson, of Edmondes Arms in Cowbridge, with a great set from Paul Cottrell, Natty German and friends.

"Our thanks also to the Vale Council for backing the event and we hope to build on this next year."

**Walking in Elgar's footsteps**

A TOTAL of 21 members of the Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers recently went on the spring walking weekend to Malvern.

Malvern is a famous spa known for its bottled water since 1622 at the Holy Well, and later from other spouts and sources, many of which we passed on our walk. During Victorian times, it became famous for its water cures.

On Saturday morning, the group met in the middle of the town, passing the 11th Century priory, Elgar's Statue, and two wells before making our way up onto the ridgeway, where we stopped for a well earned rest, having passed more 'dressed' wells on our way up.

The walk in the morning followed the western side of the hills, and had clear views over towards Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

Lunch was taken among the trees on Jubilee Hill, so named to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of 2002. From this vantage point, we could see many hills that were familiar to us, as we were looking towards the Black Mountains. After lunch, we began to make our way down the zig zag path on the eastern side of the hills.

This path brought us to The Holy Well, which is the largest of the wells, and is still producing bottled water. This well was dressed beautifully, and it was also a spot where many of us filled our water bottles.

Making our way back to Great Malvern, stopping at St Anne's Well, we were able to stop and have a much needed cup of tea in this beautiful setting before making our way back into the town.

Sunday's walk started at the British Camp car park. British Camp is an Iron Age hill fort at the top of the Hereford Beacon.

This seems to be a popular place for walkers and cyclists, as when we arrived early morning, the car park was already beginning to fill up.

This walk took in the southerly hills, and was more leisurely. After a coffee stop at the quarry, we made our way to the Eastnor Estate, passing along the way an obelisk that was erected in memory of the family who built Eastnor Estate.

The views across the park were beautiful and while having lunch, we were able to observe the deer in the distance, and watch the antics of the ducks in the lake.

Making our way back along the ridgeway, passing through the woods where the bluebells were in bloom, we eventually made our way back to the car park, which is opposite a busy hotel, where we could end our walk with a well earned drink (alcoholic, or non alcoholic) depending on the person.

It's always sad when people start to leave to come home, as everyone enjoys the weekend, but never mind, there is the one in autumn to look forward to, which will be in Devon. GF

## Who has lost a ginger tom cat?

A Barry woman who found an injured cat on Lydstep Road on Tuesday evening at 10.30pm, is hoping to track down the owner.

Marilyn Brown said: "The cat is a ginger tom, quite small with short hair."

"It looked as if he had been run over. The police helped me to take him to the vet's in Bridgend where he has been receiving treatment."

If anyone believes the cat belongs to them they can contact Marilyn on 01446 747786.

## FREE DOG HEALTH CHECKS

LOCAL dog owners are being invited to bring their pet along for a free PDSA Petcheck, as part of veterinary charity PDSA's annual UK-wide PetCheck tour.

A PDSA PetCheck vehicle will be at the following locations this month: June 9, Porthkerry Country Park, Barry – 10am–5pm; June 10, Victoria Park, Victoria Park Road, Barry – 10am–5pm; June 11, Buttrills Community Hall, North Walk, Barry – 10am–5pm; June 12, Cosmeston Lakes and Country Park, Lavernock Road, Penarth – 10am–5pm; June 13, Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Penarth – 10am–4pm.

"A live music event was arranged on the Saturday at the Edmondes Arms in Cowbridge, with a great set from Paul Cottrell, Natty German and friends.

"Our thanks also to the Vale Council for backing the event and we hope to build on this next year."

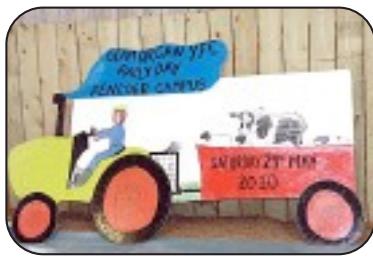
# Young farmers clubs get together at local college

**RIGHT:** Wick YFC's entry was Shirley Bassey.

**THE Glamorgan Federation of Young Farmers Clubs County Rally took place recently at Pencoed College.**

There were performances from Maendy YFC choir 'No Men Allowed', and from Wick YFC's 'The dubbin men'.

One competition asked the juniors to dress up a senior member as a Welsh celebrity or character. Wick chose Shirley Bassey and Maendy went for Fireman Sam who, with her two male 'dressers' will represent the county at the Royal Welsh Show.



**LEFT:** Maendy's Fireman Sam was the winner!

Photographs by Heather March

## Water polo girl picked for Welsh elite squad

A PENCOED girl Young People officer has been talent spotted for the Welsh water polo team, after going to an after-school club.

Emily Smith, a year-7 student from Pencoed Comprehensive School, has been selected to join the Welsh junior water polo squad and is trained by the Welsh Wanderers'.

Emily, who was taking part in 5x60 water polo, was spotted by the Welsh coach.

Chloe Lambert, Active

when I was asked. The training is a lot harder but I am enjoying it and I can not wait to play a game."

Chloe Lambert said: "Emily is a very active pupil and attends 5x60 water polo club every week, and her enthusiasm for the sport is great to see.

"She is a very dedicated and skilled player for her age of 11, and it is wonderful to see that all her hard work and training has paid off."

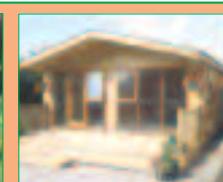
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# Barry cadets join up with ATC rugby side



Peter Pemberton and Ashley Williams represent the Air Training Corps

## Latest Vale of Glamorgan Cricket League round-up

LLANTWIT Cavaliers' Julian Griffiths followed up last week's 97 not out with the season's first century, a whopping 103 not out as the early season league leaders piled up 170 for 1 against Penarth.

The Seasiders were then dismissed for 95, Dave Russell was the main wicket-taker.

Cardiff made the trip to Rhoose to play Fontygary and scored a season's best of 203 for 5. Adam Markham Jones scored 50 and added 100 with Gareth Watts, who scored 41 not out. Nick Shear provided most of the late damage, scoring 49 in just seven overs.

Fonty's reply was a modest 106 for 4, Shae Ellis scoring 38.

Barry Internationals travelled to Pencoed. The home team scored 142 for 6, K Redford scoring 44 not out. It was not enough, though, as Internationals, led by S Abbad with 47, won by five wickets.

Another high-scoring match was played at Dinas Common. Barry Wanderers scored 161 for 7, Ed Sheriff and Gareth Lanagan both scoring 67.

In reply, Dinas scored 148 for 7, Gordan Hannah's splendid 61 being the highlight of the innings.

Barry West End have enjoyed back to back wins. After defeating Fontygary by 57 runs where the timeless Neil Holmes, probably the League's oldest player, returned 3 for 1, West End also won at Creigiau.

Chasing a score of 101 for 8, West End won by nine wickets, with Ian Gadd (55 not out) and James Thomas 32, leading the response. Tom Miller, Owen Jones, James Thomas and Chris Davies all took two wickets each for West End.

Tynwydd batted first against Colts and scored 103 for 3 from a reduced number of overs. Joe Davies, in his first match for the Inn since 2004, top-scored with 41.

The Colts won with an over to spare by seven wickets to claim a morale-boosting first win. Pete Lansdown top-scoring with a violent 35.

Finally, the Lisvane-Cogan clash became the season's first victim of the weather. With Lisvane on 100 for 4, Jojo Sharma having scored 48, the heavens opened, bringing a premature end to the match.

Team	P	W	L	Pts
Llantwit Cavaliers	4	4	0	8
Barry Internationals	4	4	0	8
Barry Athletic	3	3	0	6
Barry Wanderers	4	2	2	4
Lisvane	2	2	0	4
Cardiff	3	2	1	4
Dinas Powys	4	2	2	4
Penarth	4	2	2	4
Barry West End	4	2	2	4
Cogan Chiefs	3	1	2	2
Pencoed	4	1	3	2
Fontygary	4	1	3	2
Llantwit Cavaliers Colts	4	1	3	2
Tynwydd Inn	3	0	3	0
Creigiau	4	0	4	0

RECENTLY, Peter Pemberton and Ashley Williams of 372 (Barry) Squadron played rugby for the Air Training Corps at RAF Cosford.

Peter is a keen and active member of 372 Squadron, who has attended annual summer camps at RAF stations, undertaken adventurous training, shooting, flying, gliding and participates in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Ashley has been in the ATC for six years and has also been to Belgium, visiting the battlefields and memorials of the first and second world wars.

This fixture was supposed to pit the air cadet boys' rugby team against Warrington Rugby Club - their traditional opponent. Sadly, Warrington were not able to supply a full team, so the cadets locked horns with another promising side - the Shrewsbury Colts.

Having not faced the Colts before, the cadet side matched the experienced youngsters for over an hour. But as their legs started to tire, it was

the side from Shrewsbury who scored vital points, as they ran in a number of tries in the final 10 minutes.

The Colts proved too strong in the end for the ATC side and the score finished 45-5.

Ashley said "The rugby opposition this year was definitely tougher than expected, but the ATC teams always do well, bearing in mind that they have never played together before. It was a shame about the final score though."

The Air Cadets now prepare for an action-packed couple of months of flying, gliding, shooting, sport, adventure training and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron have vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall), phone 01446 747734 or email 372@aircadets.org

JASON HORTON

## Gymnasts all manage to make the grade

THERE was a 100 per cent success for Barry YMCA gymnasts at the recent Welsh grades events.

Within the grades system, gymnasts have to complete a number of skills on the vault, bars, beam and floor, to 'pass' their grading.

In grade 14 and 13 they also have to complete a conditioning set which tests their flexibility and strength. Grade 14 is the first grade that gymnasts can take and they have to be a minimum of eight years of age in the year of the event to sit the grading.

For many of the Barry gymnasts, this was their first event outside of the club, but this did not deter them from having a great time. Barry were represented in this grading by Kelsey Dawe, Chloe Gabb, Gabriella Hooley, Lucy Miles, Tesni Gardiner, Elisha Watkins, Ffion Jackson and Chloe Sullivan, all of whom passed.

In grade 13, Barry were represented by Ellie Peterson, Megan Sully, Tia Dewitt, Freya Parker and Megan Hopkins, all of whom passed. Tia Ali also competed in this grad-

ing and gained a distinction.

The skills get harder as the grades progress but this did not faze the grade 12 gymnasts, who had been busy learning the required skills over the past few months. Megan Brown demonstrated excellent skills earning herself a distinction, while Nia Fenn, Chelsea Slack, Seren Mirza Davies, Catrin Long, Ellice Stockford, Alana Stokes and Nia Davies all gained passes.

There is a big step up from grade 12 to grade 11 and Catrin Megan Davies (aged 11) coped with this jump tremendously, passing her grade 11 with flying colours. 15-year-old Emma Worrall competed in grade 10 and demonstrated many of the new skills she had learnt to successfully pass her grading.

Caitlin Allin represented Barry in the high-level grade 9 event and, like her training partner Emma, she too had to learn many new skills. Her hard work paid off when she passed her grading and also placed third overall in Wales. Congratulations to all gymnasts and their coaches.

KD

# Cowbridge under-15s go Dutch to take prestige rugby title



ABOVE: Cowbridge under-15s celebrate their tournament victory.

**COWBRIDGE RFC under-15s** were represented by a party of 56 hardy souls who travelled to Holland for the Dutch Open Invitation Rugby Tournament.

Like Cowbridge, the other teams competing were all champions of their regions, and the weekend was the first time all season that almost the whole squad was available for selection.

The tournament was hosted by Dukes Rugby Club in the picturesque town of 's-Hertogenbosch, made all the prettier by the hot sun.

The boys' first game was against the British School of the Netherlands, a useful outfit consisting of British and Antipodean boys, who were the runaway leaders of the Dutch First Division.

It took the Cowbridge boys just over a minute to open the scoring, as Adam Roscow scorched within his own half to touch down.

Further tries from centre James Griffiths and scrum-half Lewis Llewelyn opened up a 17-0 half-time lead that was extended by tries from openside Jack Haines, blindside Gus MacPherson, and front rower Evan Phillips.

The second game, against RC Oememman, continued this good form, and with the ball being spread wide at every opportunity, eight tries were run in with winger Hari Hitchcock scoring three, Roscow and Griffiths one apiece, centre Chris Walters another, and forwards Tom Murray and Tom Cunningham sealing the victory.

The third game was against RC Bulldogs, who despite their name and status as local champions, were overwhelmed by the all-action style of the Welsh visitors, with Hitchcock

and Haines scoring a brace, and Murray, Walters, Kenny Rodgers and MacPherson all adding their names to the score sheet.

A pool aggregate score of 134-0 saw Cowbridge go through to the semi-finals, where Chelmsford, the Essex champions, awaited them.

The Essex boys had run Cowbridge close in a tournament the previous season, and so the boys took no chances by playing secure rugby and wearing the big Essex boys down in the heat.

A dominant scrum ensured a plentiful supply of clean ball, and having established the ascendancy, the Cowbridge boys released winger Roscow to round the defence for a fine try.

Shortly afterwards, No 8 Ollie Hitchings sealed the win with a gritty try following good close-quarter work from the pack. The final score of 12-0 to Cowbridge saw them through to the final where the Kent champions, Thanet Wanders awaited them.

They had a large pack, with big powerful centres, and an unbeaten record for the season, so the Cowbridge boys knew they were in for a hard game, and steeled themselves for one final flourish.

At first, the big Thanet pack held its own and the game was evenly contested, but gradually the tempo at which the Welsh boys started the game wore their visitors down, and once again it was the forwards who subdued their larger opponents, taking numerous strikes against the head, monopolising the lineout, and providing scrum-halves Llewelyn and then Sean Boga Lake the perfect platform to release their three-quarters.

What followed was probably 15 minutes of the best rugby these boys have ever produced. With outside-halves Freddie Harries and then Rhys Griffin flicking passes at bewildering speed, centres Griffiths and Walters



ABOVE: A slight mis-match as Gus Macpherson goes on a run.



ABOVE: A try for Tom Murray.

ran a series of sublime angles that left the opposition chasing shadows.

Their offloading in the tackle ensured that play was kept alive and once again it was flying try following good close-quarter work from the pack. The final score of 12-0 to Cowbridge saw them through to the final where the Kent champions, Thanet Wanders awaited them.

They had a large pack, with big powerful centres, and an unbeaten record for the season, so the Cowbridge boys knew they were in for a hard game, and steeled themselves for one final flourish.

Rare pressure from Thanet saw full-back Charley Morris stop a promising move and, following a flowing counter-attack, Rhys Griffin touched down to seal a resounding 29-0 victory.

Skipper MacPherson was then presented with the cup by the president of the Dutch Rugby Union, and returned the shower of compliments with a brief thank you speech of his own.

Having had at least 12 boys selected for the two

Blues under-16s camps this summer, it looks as if the boys will not be playing together much in their Cowbridge shirts next season. However, if they repeat last weekend's exhibition of flowing rugby at an end of season tournament next year, then it will be well worth the wait.

*FULL SQUAD: Charley Morris, Tom Smith, Freddie Harries, Hari Hitchcock, Christian Walters, James Griffiths, Adam Roscow, Rhys Griffin, Sean Boga Lake, Lewis Llewelyn, Kenny Rodgers, Tom Cunningham, Evan Phillips, Lloyd Stock, Tom Murray, Matt Goodlad, Kerian Smith, Jack Haines, Ollie Hitchings, and Gus MacPherson (capt). TG*

## CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM welcomes your match reports, and other club items of interest.

Email them to:  
[ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)  
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*The GEM, Graig House,  
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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



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## Jan's Domestic Cleaning

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Jan was often asked for a reliable handyman to do odd jobs. With this in mind, she has begun a partnership with her partner Pete – Mr Multifix – who specialises in kitchen and bathroom installations.

Jan and Pete are now trading as Jan's Domestic Cleaning and Building Maintenance Services.

Contact Jan on 07934 141582. Remember, no job is too small!

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## What is the World Twittering on about?

Wednesday, 16th June 2010

at Trio Brasserie, Cowbridge, 6.30-9.00pm.

Guests and non-members are most welcome!  
(Guest membership for the event is £6).  
Please e-mail [members@vwbn.org.uk](mailto:members@vwbn.org.uk) to book

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# Out and About with The GEM

## VALE MAYOR WELCOMES CHICAGO CHOIR



**ABOVE:**  
The Moody Bible Institute Choir from Chicago visited the Town Hall, Barry, for a special reception hosted by the Mayor, Coun Colin Osborne.

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Colin Osborne, recently hosted a reception at the town hall for members of the Moody Bible Institute Choir from Chicago. The concert in Barry was their only performance in Wales, as part of their UK tour.

## What's on and Where?

**Art show**  
COWBRIDGE Art Society's summer exhibition and sale of paintings is being held in Cowbridge Library, Old Hall Gardens.

### Valeways walks

ON June 7 at 7pm, the Sunken Valley walk starts at St Brides Major near the cattle grid.

On June 8 at 1.30pm, walk the Aberthaw Nature Trail, starting at the Blue Anchor Inn car park, Aberthaw.

Please note there may be stiles, uneven surfaces, steep sections or soft, wet ground on some walks.

**Green drinks**  
GREEN Drinks are being held at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, on Tuesday, June 8, from 7.30pm.

This is an open and informal monthly get-together to chat and share information on how to live more sustainably. All welcome  
Contact Rob McGhee on 01446 775686 or transitioncowbridge@googlemail.co,

## It's not that men don't 'get' Sex and the City – it's just not any good!

**W**ITH the football World Cup just days away, it is only fair that the women of the world are given something to help take their minds off the festival of football that males will be enjoying for the next month or so.

Whether it is intentional or not, the second *Sex and The City* film lands with a bang just before the event in South Africa, no doubt bringing a smile to the face of women everywhere whose idea of heaven is cosmopolitan cocktails and Jimmy Choo shoes.

Picking up where the first film's instalment left off, we see the lives of Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker), Samantha (Kim Cattrall), Charlotte (Kristin Davies) and Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) as they respectively try to deal with the spark going out of marriages, the problems of getting old, bra-less nannies and bosses who treat them like rubbish – but when it all gets too much, a trip to Abu Dhabi allows the four friends to take a step back from their lives with varying consequences...

When interviewed on breakfast television last week, Sarah Jessica Parker claimed that critical response to *Sex and the City* 2 wasn't a factor, that the film was made purely for the audience that went to watch the first one (and made it a huge financial success).

A fair point made by the film's star and producer – after all, films that earn the sort of money the first *SATC* film did are afforded a degree of critical fire-proofing – but did her statement aim to cover the tracks that poor reviews would make?

Having taken in this sequel, I am pretty sure that Parker was on somewhat of a damage limitation trip, as this review isn't going to buck the trend started by film magazines and columns across the world – *Sex and the City* 2 is an absolutely woeful film.

Now I'm fully aware that my genetics should make my hatred for this type of film par for the course – yet the TV series it sprang from wasn't the hellish half-hour for men it was made out to be.

It was a sassy, comedic programme that, while hardly essential viewing, wasn't awful; however, the first film seemed to lack what made it enjoyable.

The sass and spark had gone, the film spending 150 minutes in the neuroses of the main characters and ending up being dull and unfunny where it should have been triumphant.

Anyone expecting *SATC* 2 to make up for the shortcomings of its forebear should be warned now, it most certainly doesn't; in fact, it is a film that, while lighter of touch, is perhaps even worse.

The marathon, self-indulgent running time of 146 minutes does it no favours whatsoever – the film more padded out than the players on an American football field – while all those creatively involved obviously spent far too long congratulating themselves on the success of the first that they announced a second without giving any thought to the story.

The end product ends up being a film that only hints at story depth, before forgetting about it in order to facilitate another crisis for one of the characters; meanwhile the second half trip to Abu Dhabi feels like the fallback of that British sitcom staple of taking the characters abroad when it comes to making a film.

It is a pointless diversion that is blatantly there to make the film last as long as possible, which given that Michael Patrick King, longtime producer of both TV show and film, was responsible for, makes it all the more shocking that he couldn't create something a bit more substantial for the characters.

It is also all too smug and bathed in stereotypes; kicking off with a gay marriage (and just in case you don't realise it's a gay marriage the words 'gay marriage' are used every other sentence). The service is hosted by Liza Minnelli, who then proceeds to talk her way through Beyoncé's Single Ladies – because, of course, that's how every gay marriage goes.

But a wide range of subjects; from males and females in New York, to the locals of Abu Dhabi, all are tarred with the same stereotypical brush, making it a film that, given how suppos-

## SCREEN TALK



**by GARETH JAMIESON**

excessively prone to hot flushes or offending the beliefs of those who live in Abu Dhabi with her casual attitudes, Cattrall is the antidote to Parker's poor effort, livening up proceedings no end.

Had the film revolved around Samantha and not Carrie, it is likely that *Sex and the City* 2 wouldn't be the slow, unfunny mess it is; while much more cinematic than the first outing it is still lacking in the smarts the TV show had.

Once again, it will doubtless furnish the studio pockets with plenty of silver while giving way to the more predictable-than-England-losing-on-penalties threequel – but there is nothing here that makes for a film that has much in the way of redeeming features, making *SATC* 2 a pointless exercise in moneymaking.

**VERDICT** – A dull, worthless film that exists purely to appease fans who haven't had their fill of these characters, *Sex and the City* 2 is saved from total ignominy by Kim Cattrall's game turn, and Cynthia Nixon and Kristin Davies' pleasant support.

But the overriding stench of fashionista smugness and its stereotypical portrayal of various sectors of society, mean this is a film that lacks in charm what it attempts to make up for in style. *One to avoid.*

## DIABETES WALK

DIABETES UK Cymru is urging local people to put their best feet forward during Diabetes Week 2010 for its annual Walk the Extra Mile event in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, on Sunday, June 13.

Starting at 11am, the two-mile walk is a fun event for all the family and is suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

## DIABETES TALK

THE next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Group of Diabetes UK Cymru will be June 15, when the head of retinopathy services for diabetes in Wales will be the speaker.

The meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth.



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In the final Peterston beat Intel Penarth. The young footballers enjoyed a presentation ceremony at the end of a hard fought day. Jacob from Peterston was named player of the tournament and won a Cardiff City shirt.

**PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON**





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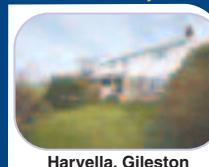
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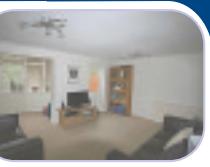
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**Sea views.**

**20 Cwrt Newton Pool, Rhoose - £795 pcm**

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**34 Bryn Y Glyn, Rhoose - £795 pcm**

Unfurnished detached four bedroom house with conservatory.

**12 Church Meadow, Boverton - £795 pcm**

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**48 Bryn Y Glyn, Rhoose Point - £1,000 pcm**

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# Stags frustrated by changeable weather

**NATHAN BAKER** took his Barry Athletic First XI to season strungers, Ponthir CC, knowing that a victory would make it four wins in a row and five wins in the space of six matches.

With the weather forecasting heavy rain in the afternoon, the Stags were in danger of missing out on a chance to cushion themselves from the chasing pack.

Despite the showers threatening, the match went ahead with Nathan winning the toss. He chose to field first. With the likes of Steve Jones returning to the side, the Stags were strengthened.

However, after three balls into the match and the score at 4-1, the showers turned to downpours and with the health and safety of the players at risk, the match was rightly abandoned.

With no matches taking place in the division, the Stags remain on top and looking for promotion.

## Seconds

At the fourth time of asking, Damon Leake claimed his first win as Second XI captain – against Ponthir.

Unlike the majority of matches in the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Cricket League, Barry Island managed to avoid the worst of the weather, and with nothing more than a miracle performed by groundsmen, Ian Gadd and Glan Williams, the match went ahead.

With the likes of John Gee returning to the squad, the Stags had another reliable all-

rounder at their disposal. Despite all that, Leake won the toss and elected to field first.

The innings began in a comfortable fashion for the Stags, as wickets fell at regular intervals and not many runs were scored. Good performances from James Haswell and John Gee, with the new ball, brought many chances for the Stags and with the depth of batting on the thin side for the visitors, the Stags were looking forward to their first 'all out' of the campaign.

The high standard in bowling was followed by superb fielding, including a contender for 'catch of the season' by Sam Johnson, and a magnificent direct hit run-out by Damon Leake, and with the rest of the bowling attack contributing, the visitors were bowled out for 154, with the best bowling performance coming from John Gee (3-39).

The second innings, again, began in dominant fashion with the good form of Damon Leake continuing, as he hit boundary after boundary, getting the Stags under way in the early overs.

Despite the early loss of James Haswell, for a duck, the Stags looked in touch of a comfortable win.

Contributions from Glan Williams (21), John Gee (36 not out) and a handy contribution from the extras column brought the Stags within touching distance.

The loss of Leake for 60 brought little consolation for Ponthir as interim chairman, Martin Baker (15 not out) carried the Stags over the line, with six overs to spare.

The Stags won by

**Athletic under-9s win Creigiau tournament**

Barry Athletic under-9s travelled to Creigiau for their second mini-tournament and with the opponents being St Fagans, Creigiau, and Whitchurch, the mini-Stags had a tough day ahead of them.

First up was Creigiau, and with the sun shining at full blast, the runs should have been in full flow.

This wasn't evident as

seven wickets and both sides bowled very consistently to help limit points of the season.

The win moves the Stags out of the relegation zone and with winnable matches coming up, the Stags may be able to push towards the top half of the league.

## Thirds

Due to unavailability in the Barry Third XI squad, Andy Ellis' Stags were forced to concede the match to Panteg B CC, last Sunday.

## Forthcoming fixtures

Saturday, Barry First XI vs Llislane CC; Brecon CC vs Barry Second XI.

Sunday, Barry Third XI vs Creigiau CC.

Wednesday, Creigiau CC vs Buckley's Bashers XI.

Barry Athletic CC have announced that the monthly party will take place on June 12, at the Barry Oval, after the match between Barry Second XI and Hoover Sports CC – live music from Mark Moulden will be featured.

In addition, Barry Athletic CC would also like to wish daughter of legendary tea lady Nicola Baker, Gemma, a happy 16th birthday, on Sunday, June 6.

## Athletic under-9s win Creigiau tournament

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# Bonvilston witnesses a 'thriller' novice race



## ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

**T**HEY turned out in their thousands – the regular enthusiasts and those that read about the forthcoming meeting in The GEM – for the Countryside Alliance (Wales) Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Bonvilston on Bank Holiday Monday.

In glorious sunshine, racegoers witnessed some excellent racing.

The Nathaniel Car Sales Countryside Alliance Club Members Novice Riders' Race was a real thriller with three horses finishing within inches of each other.

The judge, Gwyn Brace, rightly so in my opinion, ruled that Mrs and Mrs Pugsley's *Fully Loaded*, ridden by their daughter Emma, aged 20, had won by a short head from *Roznic* (John Norman), with the gallant *Grey Kid* (Nathan Deakin), a further short head away in third place.

However, Norman thought that his mount, which is trained by Aberthin's Abbi Vaughan, had won and rode straight into the place reserved for the winner.

*Fully Loaded*, who is by the stallion *Needle Gun* which is standing at David Brace's Bridgend stud, is qualified with the Devon and Somerset Staghounds and the 10-year-old bay gelding was recording his ninth win of the season.

The Evan Williams Racing four, five, six and seven-year-olds Open Maiden Race went to Beth Roberts's *Copper Carroll* who, under the new amateur ladies jump jockey champion rider Isabel Tompsett, won by two lengths from *Tachbury* (Nathan Deakin) after taking the lead four fences from the finish.

*Copper Carroll*, a six-year-old bay mare, "is the most expensive horse I have ever bought" joked her owner/trainer who paid little more than a £1,000 for her in Ireland a couple of years ago.

The Tim Vaughan Racing Mixed Open went to Dewi Lewis's nine-year-old bay gelding *Balearic Star*, who drew away from the pacemaking *Classic Chance* (Nick Williams) at the second last fence to win by 10 lengths, with *Galtee View* (Joseph Williams) winner of the Welsh Point-To-Point Grand National over the course earlier this season, a further 12 lengths away in third place.

*Balearic Star*, who went off the 5-

favourite, was ridden by John Mathias, aged 19, who is making a bold bid for the national riders' championship.

The Country Fresh Eggs Restricted race resulted in a 20 lengths win for Paul Goldsworthy's six-year-old chestnut gelding *Hocinail* who, well ridden by Nathan Deakin, made all the running – just like he did when losing his maiden tag over the course at the earlier Pentycroft to beat *Diddle'Em* (John Llewellyn).

Backers of the odds-on *Pathian Prince* (John Mathias) never had a run for their money as the seven-year-old bay gelding fell at the third fence.

*Freedom Of Choice*, a 25-1 chance, was a shock winner of The Welsh Game Fair eight-year-olds and over Open Maiden race.

Owned and trained by local farmer Mike David, of St Mary Hill, this son of *Beneficial* jumped the last alongside the favourite *Kyrano* (Liam Pwyer) and went on to win by a length with *Sodbuster* a further 25 lengths away in third place.

*Freedom Of Choice*, who cost just £850 at the Ascot Sales a couple of years ago, was ridden by John England, brother of National Hunt jockey David England, and according to his owner/trainer, who was saddling his first winner in years, is so gentle at home that "a kid could ride him".

John England, who rides out for Llancarfan trainer Evan Williams, was chalking up his fourth winner between-the-flags.

Llantrisant saddler Keith Pritchard was a little surprised when his eight-year-old *Chandlers Cross* (Paul Tolman) ran out a six lengths winner of The Llantwit Major AutoCentre Intermediate race from *Definite Approach* (D Turner).

This eight-year-old chestnut gelding, trained by Paul Davies at Bromyard, had disappointed his owner when finishing out of the first three in the Dunraven Hunter Chase at Chepstow. However, on this occasion the gelding showed a bit more sparkle and, taking up the running three fences from home, the son of *Rakaposhi King* won easily enough.

Paul Tolman, who rides for West Wales's Rebecca Curtis, was riding his seventh winner between-the-flags this season and he has also ridden four winners under rules.



## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

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# DOUBLE DELIGHT FOR DINAS GIRLS



ABOVE: Dinas Powys girls under-17s won their final by holding on to a 4-3 lead late on.

**THE** girls section of Dinas Powys Football Club had a memorable day at the finals of the South Wales Girls League Cup recently at Sully Sports Football Ground.

Both the under-14 girls team and under-17 girls team had reached the finals, and started the day with high hopes of winning more silverware this season.

The first match was the under-14s, whose opposition was Cardiff City Ladies, and Dinas started the game as favourites having beaten their opposition twice previously this season.

Nevertheless Cardiff City started the match much brighter and scored two superb goals, one a long range shot and one from a counter attack.

However, Dinas Powys have not lost a match all season and they showed their team spirit, despite the fact that they had no substitutes available and a number of the players were carrying injuries. They launched themselves ferociously at their

opposition and had the misfortune of missing a penalty, but still this did not dampen their determination.

Eventually, after carving out many openings, striker Erin Murray managed to find the back of the net after a fine move, going into half time only 2-1 down.

In the second half a number of early chances were missed and the score stayed at 2-1 until the final 10 minutes, and it seemed that it wasn't going to be Dinas' day despite the pressure they were mounting.

However, after a fine run, left wing Jessica Cogbill tucked the ball into the back of the net and this raised Dinas' hopes for one last surge. A few minutes later, Erin Murray capped a fine team performance with a well-taken goal to leave the Dinas Powys players jubilant when the final whistle went, achieving a significant treble during this season of winning the League Cup, The South Wales Girls League and The South Wales Girls Tesco Cup.



ABOVE: Dinas Powys girls under-14s won their final with two goals in the last 10 minutes.

It has clearly been a magnificent achievement and one the girls can be rightly proud of.

The game was immediately followed by the under-17 team final, and from Dinas Powys' perspective it was a complete reversal. The under-17 team side were out for revenge, having lost a narrow 4-3 match earlier in the season to Landore from Swansea in the South Wales Girls League, and their attitude and commitment from the off could not be faulted.

The Dinas Girls went ahead within five minutes, with a 25-yard long range shot from captain Emily Jellings, who then repeated her achievement, putting the Dinas Powys girls 2-0 up.

A short while later, an unnecessary push in the box by one of the Landore defenders allowed Jordan Guard to take a well-executed penalty, and shortly thereafter Ellen Philips made it 4-0 from a goal mouth scramble.

The Dinas girls then missed a host of chances to put the game out of reach, and in fairness to Landore, they showed a tremendous fighting spirit

and just before half time, scored an excellent goal from their left winger, worthy of Peter Whittingham himself!

The second half saw a great fight back from Landore, and they scored two more goals, with the Dinas girls hanging on for a 4-3 victory, which on the balance of the game was clearly deserved.

Congratulations to the players, parents and coaches of both the under-14s and under-17s team for their achievements that day, as well as the under-12s, who were narrowly defeated in their semi final, losing to the eventual winners on extra time. The season has proved to be another tremendous success for the girls section.

There was success for the boys under-15 side as well, when they clinched their league title!

JC

## Sporting chance for the Sant Curig pupils at UWIC



LAST WEEK, the junior children at Ysgol Sant Curig were taken off to the National Indoor Athletic Centre at UWIC for their annual sports day.

Four coaches were organised to transport over 200 children and staff into Cardiff.

Once there, the children got to use the specialised equipment on offer, including the hurdles, shot putt, long jump pit and the children's favourite, the high jump.

After lunch, the real competition started with the four houses challenging each other in different events.

An exciting day finished dramatically with the green of 'Hafren' winning the final relay race to capture the Sports Day Shield.

A special thank you has to go to Miss Nia Davies and Mrs Catherine Jones for organising this wonderful event and a big thank you to all the parents that supported our day.

## Dinas schoolchildren cross-question the AM

**REGIONAL AM**  
Chris Franks met pupils and teachers from St Andrews Church in Wales School, Dinas Powys when they visited the Senedd.

Dinas Powys resident and Assembly Commissioner Mr Franks said: "I was delighted to meet pupils from the school council at St Andrews Church in Wales School. The pupils asked a series of questions about the work of Assembly Members."

"They specifically asked what I enjoyed about being an Assembly Member. I told them a very important part of the job was meeting the public and visiting local community organisations. I mentioned attending the launch of a scheme to help blind and partially sighted people



to live independent lives. "Also discussed was the questioning of Ministers and holding them to account. I hope pupils and teachers found their visit to the Senedd useful and enjoyable."

## Holton Road under-14s win 'cracking' Cup final



ABOVE: Holton Road under-14s.

**HOLTON** Road under-14s recently played Dinas Powys A at Jenner Park in the under-14s Cup final – it turned out to be a cracking match and a wonderful spectacle for the neutral.

From the whistle, the game kicked off straight into a high tempo affair. Dinas Powys A showing that they meant business with a shot within the first few minutes that went wide.

Dinas continued to apply pressure, but as the

game went on, Holton Road slowly but surely began to control the game. It wasn't long before the constant running of Billy Grattan on the right wing paid dividends.

A great cross in from the right found Zac Reed, who turned on his man, then let rip with a rocket of a shot, which flew past the keeper and into the back of the net.

A well deserved goal – Holton Road then upped the game. A number of chances came their way, but the second goal kept eluding them.

With only a few minutes to go to half-time and against the run of play, a long clearance from Dinas found their left winger, who ran straight at goal with only one thing on his mind. A cracking tackle was made by the Holton centre back, but the referee gave a penalty for holding back.

Up stepped the Dinas striker, who calmly popped the ball away. He took it past a couple of players, before releas-

ing Rhys path of Travell Konten. With the Dinas keeper rushing off his line towards him, he stroked the ball home, 2-1. Holton Road had that elusive second goal.

The boys up front had run themselves into the ground, so fresh legs were put on in Callum Harding and Geraint Andrews. These two linked up almost straight-away to cause further problems for the Dinas defence.

The final whistle rang out, to the roar of the supporters who engulfed the Holton Road players on the pitch.

Many thanks to all the families and friends who turned up to cheer the boys on. Holton Road would like to say thank you to Unique Flooring for sponsoring the team's new tops for the final and many, many thanks to Chris and Marie Mort of CJ Contract Travel Services for this season's kit and their continued support of the team.

MARK THOMPSON

## CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM welcomes your match reports, and other club items of interest.

Email them to:  
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LLANTWIT MAJOR, COWBRIDGE, BARRY, BRIDGEND & PORTHCawl



**Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools Middle (Years 10 and 11) track & field championships - Cardiff International Sports Stadium**

# DAMP WEATHER FAILS TO HINDER VALE PUPILS AT LECKWITH ATHLETICS EVENT



Barry Comprehensive year-10 Callum Barrie on his way to victory in the 3,000 metres.



Year-11 James Glaves contributed 41.5 points to the winning team total of Bro Morgannwg boys.



Penllyn resident Caitlin Bryant (The Cathedral School), on her way to victory in the 3,000m.



The 300 metres winner was Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren).

AFTER dry afternoons for the Senior Cup and Championships, the middle pupils in years 10 and 11 had, for the second successive year, to contend with damp conditions for their Cardiff & the Vale Schools championships at Leckwith.

It was the hurdlers and high jumpers who suffered the most with the application of the safety rule of only pupils wearing spikes being allowed to compete. The girl javelin throwers also had to suffer, with only standing throws permitted.

Last year, 14 Vale pupils claimed titles, and, of that number, four won again this year, though not necessarily in the same event.

In that quartet were Scott Hewins (Llanwit), who retained his javelin title, Bethan Daw (St Cyres), who again outran the rest of the field in the 1,500 metres, and Lia Thomas (Bro Morgannwg), who claimed the triple jump win for the second year. The fourth member of the group was Eloise Laity (Westbourne). Eloise was the winner of the 800 metres at the under-15 championships in 2008, and claimed the middle title in that event last year.

At these championships, she was beaten over that distance by a record equalling run from Radyr year-11 Lucy Harvey but she should not be downhearted as, earlier in the programme, she had claimed a win in the 200 metres.

A further eight Vale pupils claimed wins at this fixture, with victory possibly leading to selection to represent Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan district at the Aviva Welsh Schools' National championships, which are to be held at Brecon on Saturday, July 3.

In the shot, St Cyres year-11 Ben Harding produced a top put of 13.70 metres to see off the challenge of his old rival Michael Daniels (Llanwit) and the young pretenders in year-10, while, in a low key triple jump contest, Kieron Laity gained victory for Bro Morgannwg.

On the track, Bryn Hafren year-11 Ellie Carter was in a class of her own over 300 metres while, despite the Cathedral School deciding not to take part in any Cardiff & the Vale Schools track and field competitions this summer, it was good to see Caitlin Bryant competing over 3,000 metres and taking the win.

In the boys' events, Barry Comprehensive year-10 Callum Barrie made it a Vale double with a win in the boys' 3 km.

There are two team competitions at these championships, with the top 16 athletes in each event scoring points for their school, from 17 for a win down to one point for 16th place.

With that in mind, staff from Bro Morgannwg and Llanwit will have been delighted at the wins from their girls in the shot, discus and javelin. Year-11 Jessica Richards (Llanwit) took the shot title while Bro Morgannwg duo Lisa Williams and Leanne Kelland won the discus and hammer respectively.

While the focus has been on Vale winners, mention must also be made of Bro Morgannwg year-11 James Glaves. The

Bonvilston resident missed out on a title but finished fourth in the sprint hurdles final, third overall in the 400 metres hurdles time-trials and equal second in the high jump to gain a total of 41.5 points for his school.

After a number of years of success in this age group, the staff and pupils from Bro Morgannwg missed out on the two top spots, losing out to Cardiff High in the boys' section and to Whitchurch in the girls.

Thankfully, with good staff organisation and willing pupil support, the Barry-based school were back at the top this year racking up 357 points in the boys' competition to defeat Cardiff High by four points, and sharing the girls' trophy with Whitchurch on a score 223.5 points.

The individual and team winners will receive their awards and trophies at the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' Track and Field presentation evening at Cardiff High School on Tuesday, September 7, starting at 7 pm. This is the day after school re-starts for the autumn term in the Vale.

The standard of organisation at these school fixtures is of high quality, but it could not be achieved without the help of a number of experienced officials and volunteers from outside the teaching profession.

The association would like to record its thanks to Vale-based Messrs Edward, Matthews, Nicholson and Dixon.

John Edward and Keith Matthews are the top two starters in Wales, while Ted Nicholson provides vital first aid cover. All three are based in Barry.

Ian Dixon takes the high quality photographs, which add so much to these reports. Thank you, gentleman!

Results of Vale pupils: **Middle boys – individuals:** 100H: 1t 1ws: -14: 3 Joe Green (St Cyres) 12.5; 4 Zac Deere (Bro M) 12.6; Ht 2 ws: -0.8: 1 Arran Reid (Barry) 12.0; 5 Luke Davis (Lwt) 13.2; 6 Andrew Westcott (Cow) 13.3; Ht 3 ws: -0.8: 3 Tom Perry (Bro M) 12.7; 6 Nicholas Taylor (StRichG) 13.8; 7 Saeed Esa (St Cyres) 13.9; Ht 4 ws: -0.7: 6 Sam Street (Cow) 13.1; 7 James Jackson (StRichG) 14.7; Final ws: -0.9: 3 Arran Reid (Barry) 11.7; 5 Joe Green (St Cyres) 12.2; **200H:** Ht 1ws: -0.3: 1 Joel Beavis (Bro M) 25.3; 4 George Lee (Lwt) 26.2; Ht 2 ws: -0.2: 1 Ben Harding (St Cyres) 24.6; 2 Jack Laidlaw (Cow) 25.6; 3 Michael West (Lwt) 26.1; 6 Shanon Horrigan (StRichG) 26.9; Ht 3 ws: -0.9: 3 Joe Green (St Cyres) 24.6; Ht 4 ws: -0.1: 4 Sam Norman (Bro M) 25.8; 5 Connor Doyle Barry 26.3; 7 Christian Walters (Cow) 27.6; Fin ws: -0.7: 3 Ben Harding (St Cyres) 24.3; 5 Joe Green (St Cyres) 24.9; 7 Joel Beavis (Bro M) 25.2; **400H:** Ht 1: 1 Wesley Burns (Bro M) 54.6; 4 Corey Hill (Barry) 62.3; 6 Jodie Dean (StRichG) 67.7; Ht 2: 3 Jacob Thomas (St Cyres) 61.3; 4 Connor Doyle (Barry) 64.7; 5 Daniel Davies (StRichG) 66.4; Ht 3: 1 Alex Simon (Lwt) 56.2; 2 Emrys George (Bro M) 57.1; Ht 4: 3 Josh Drew (Lwt) 59.0; 5 Oliver Hitchings (Cow) 61.8; 6 James Griffiths (Cow) 68.5; Fin: 3 Wesley Burns (Bro M) 55.3; 4 Alex

Report by PETE MORRIS  
Pictures by IAN DIXON

Simon (Lwt) 55.9; 6 Emrys George (Bro M) 57.2; **800H:** Ht 1: 2 Charlie Halpin (St John's) 2:15.5; 5 Dan Owen (Lwt) 2:24.4; 7 Rhidian Mepham (Bro M) 2:30.9; 8 Alastair Richards (Cow) 2:35.7; 9 Damian Robinson (Barry) 2:39.1; Ht 2: 1 Tieman Scott (Bro M) 2:17.2; 4 Rhys Griffin (Cow) 2:24.9; 7 Andrew Williams (Lwt) 2:30.7; 11 Brendon O'Hare (StRichG) 2:42.1; 12 Rhys Fazloodin (Barry) 2:47.1; Fin: 2 Charlie Halpin (St John's) 2:15.0; 3 Tieman Scott (Bro M) 2:17.9; 8 Dan Owen (Lwt) 2:24.8; **1,500:** 2 Mathew Edwards (Barry) 4:23.8; 4 Daniel Lewis (St Cyres) 4:58.5; 6 Einan Scott (Bro M) 5:02.4; 9 Abdel Boulaiche (St Cyres) 5:06.2; 17 Stuart Fleming (Cow) 5:32.7; 3,000: 1 Callum Barrie (Barry) 10:30.5; 2 Rhys George (Bro M) 10:44.2; 3 Tom Kamal (Cow) 11:05.8; 6 Richard Pilcher (Bro M) 11:35.4; 7 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 11:41.7; **100 HUR:** Ht 1 ws: 0.2: 3 Harry Hitchcock (Cow) 17.4; 4 Joel Beavis (Bro M) 18.1; 7 Saeed Esa (St Cyres) 20.7; Ht 2 ws: -0.8: 2 James Glaves (Bro M) 16.2; 5 Ashley Wilson (Cow) 19.4; 6 Andrew Westacott (Cow) 20.2; 7 Nicholas Taylor (StRichG) 20.5; 8 Jay Foscolo (Barry) 21.3; Fin ws: -1.0: 4 James Glaves (Bro M) 16.9; 7 Harry Hitchcock (Cow) 17.0; 8 Joel Beavis (Bro M) 17.4; **400 HUR:** 3 James Glaves (Bro M) 65.2; 8 Kieron Laity (Bro M) 70.7; 9 Jay Foscolo (Barry) 75.8; **1,500 Sc:** 2 Callum Barrie (Barry) 5:29.3; 4 Luke Hannon (Bro M) 6:14.3; 6 David Sami (Cow) 6:36.5; **HJ:** 2= James Glaves (Bro M) 1.60; 8= Jason Butcher (Bro M) 1.55; 10 Harry Trotman (Cow) 1.50; 12 Josh Albertides (Barry) 1.50; 13= Josh Thomas (Cow) 1.45; 17 Connor Craythorne (Lwt) 1.40; 18 Jamie Robinson (Lwt) 1.35; **PV:** 3 Jake Connally (Bro M) 2.40; 5 Rhidian Mepham (Bro M) 2.40; **LJ:** 3 Sam Norman (Bro M) 5.84; 7 Jack Laidlaw (Cow) 5.04; 8 Lloyd Martin (Bro M) 5.03; 11 George Lee (Lwt) 4.97; 13 Ben Ware (Stan) 4.83; 15 Andrew Westcott (Cow) 4.78; 18 Arran Reid (Barry) 4.69; 19 Jamie Robinson (Lwt) 4.59; 20 Corey Hill (Barry) 4.57; 21 Andrew Breed (St Cyres) 4.45; 24 Ashley Wilson (St Cyres) 4.42; 28 Liam Tucker (StRichG) 4.23; 30 Nick Taylor (StRichG) 3.95; **TJ:** 1 Keiron Laity (Bro M) 11.48; 2 Zac Deere (Bro M) 11.42; 7 Jack Laidlaw (Cow) 11.03; 11 Luke Davies (Lwt) 10.89; 13 John Conkey (Lwt) 10.67; 15 James Hendy (Cow) 10.14; 16 William Powell (Barry) 9.92; 17 Corey Hill (Barry) 9.90; 20 Louis Allen (Stan) 9.28; **SP:** 1 Ben Harding (St Cyres) 13.70; 2 Gus McPherson (Cow) 12.87; 3 Michael Daniels (Lwt) 12.51; 6 Sam Norman (Bro M) 11.36; 13 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 10.54; 14 Lloyd Martin (Bro M) 9.86; 15 Jack Blanfield (Barry) 9.85; 18 Niall Griffiths (StRichG) 8.33; 19 Liam Tucker (StRichG) 8.07; **DT:** 3 Tom Perry (Bro M) 31.90; 5 Einon Scott (Bro M) 24.83; 8 Corey Gorman (Cow) 23.10; 9 Matthew Jones (Lwt) 22.66; 10 Kurt Fackrell (Cow) 21.85; 14 Jack Austen (Lwt) 20.91; 15 Mitchell Carter (StRichG) 20.76; 21 Rhys Fazloodin (Barry) 16.98; **HT:** 3 Scott Hewins (Lwt) 27.70; 6 Tom Warren (St Cyres) 22.64; 7 Tom Perry (Bro M) 22.17; 9 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 20.75; 10 Richard Pilcher (Bro M) 20.65; 12 Gus McPherson (Cow) 18.85; 14 Mitchell Carter (StRichG) 17.72; **JT:** 1 Scott Hewins (Lwt) 43.25; 4 Tiernan Scott (Bro M) 34.72; 5 Sam Robert (Cow) 33.87; 7 Sam Middlemiss (St Cyres) 33.39; 11 Richard Pilcher (Bro M) 29.69; 14 Dave Evans (Lwt) 27.75; 15 Louie Allen (Stan) 26.63; 16 Rhys Fazloodin (Barry) 25.78; 18 Mitchell Carter (StRichG) 22.45; 20 Dan Roderick (Barry) 20.40; 21 James Griffiths (Cow) 20.09; **2Km walk:** 5 Brendan O-hre (StRichG) 13:30.8; **4 x 100:** Ht 1: 3 Llanwit 48.5; 5 Cowbridge 49.8; 7 St Richard Gwyn 57.2; Ht 2: 3 Bro Morgannwg 48.5; 5 St Cyres 52.5; Barry Disq; Fin: 2 Bro Morgannwg 48.1; 7 Llanwit 49.6. **Teams:** 1 Bro Morgannwg 357; 6 Cowbridge 163; 8 Llanwit Major 124; 9 St Cyres 109; 12 Barry Comprehensive 80; 16 St Richard Gwyn 25; 20 Stanwell 6. **Middle girls – individuals:** **100:** Ht 1 ws: -0.4: 2 Jess Hayes (Cow) 14.4; 3 Shanelle Edwards (Bro M) 14.7; 5 Rhia Dutton (Bry H) 15.2; 7 Kiae McCloud (Stan) 16.5; Ht 2 ws: 0.3: Abi White (Stan) disq; Ht 3 ws: -0.8: 2 Zoe Stephens (Bro M) 14.3; 3 Mollie Kane (StRichG) 14.4; 4 Romy Killik (Cow) 14.7; 6 Danielle Close (Bry H) 15.6; Final ws: -1.1: 6 Zoe Stephens (Bro M) 14.4; 7 Mollie Kane (StRichG) 14.6; 8 Jess Hayes (Cow) 14.8; **200:** Ht 1 ws: -0.2: 4 Emma Worrell (Lwt) 30.6; 7 Sophie Lloyd (Cow) 32.3; Ht 2 ws: -1.0: 2 Eloise Laity (West) 27.8; 4 Danielle Edgerton (Bro M) 31.7; 5 Alice Lewis (Bry H) 32.5; 6 Ainsley Vines (StRichG) 32.9; Ht 3 ws: -0.4: 2 Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 29.0; 4 Chaliess Ludvigsen (Bry H) 31.3; Fin ws: -0.7: 1 Eloise Laity (West) 27.1; 5 Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 30.2; 7 Danielle Edgerton (Bro M) 34.0; **300:** Ht 1: 4 Danielle Close (Bry H) 52.8; 5 Amy Wright (Bro M) 53.2; 6 Lydia James (Cow) 54.6; 7 Jessica Lewis (StRichG) 55.2; Ht 2: 1 Ellie Carter (Bry H) 45.8; 2 Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 48.1; 4 Ainsley Vines (StRichG) 54.3; Fin: 1 Ellie Carter (Bry H) 46.9; **800:** 2 Eloise Laity (West) 22.48; 4 Rachel Bradshaw (Cow) 25.2; 11 Lisa Williams (Bro M) 3:01.8; 12 Ella Hughes (Lwt) 3:05.7; 13 Beatrice Hacker (Cow) 3:07.4; 16 Lauren Westlands (Lwt) 3:10.2; 17 Jody Price (Bry H) 3:12.3; 18 Sophie Thomas (Bry H) 3:14.6; 19 Abi White (Stan) 3:16.4; 21 Aysha Clarke (Bro M) 3:50.4; 22 Nicola Anderson (StRichG) 4:26.0; **1,500:** 1 Bethan Daw (St Cyres) 4:56.2; 7 Anthea Young (Lwt) 6:08.0; 8 Sarah Herbert (Bry H) 6:41.9; 9 Danielle Edgerton (Bro M) 6:44.3; 10 Rosalie Deni (Cow) 6:48.2; 11 Verity Morgan (Cow) 6:54.3; 13 Sam Chambers (Bry H) 7:20.2; **3,000:** 1 Caitlin Bryant (The Cathedral) 11:40.1; 2 Fiona Bray (Cow) 11:42.9; 4 Katie Wynne (Cow) 13:16.8; **80H:** Ht 1 ws: -0.9: 2 Chloe Phillips (Lwt)

# Under-10s look back on season



**LEFT:**  
After a good season, Llantwit Major under-10 lions have thanked Louise England and SITESERV for supporting the team. The Lions look forward to continued support in the years to come.

## Darts league tables

THE final darts league tables for the Llantwit Major and District Darts League are:

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Four Bells .....
Blacksmiths Arms 2.....
C League
Shoes Marcross.....
Kings Cup .....
Lamb & Flag.....
Kings Head 1 .....
Farmers Arms .....
Carpenters Arms .....
Kings Head 2 .....
Rugby Club.....
DC

## Sponsored bike ride

PETERSTON super Ely Church in Wales Primary School PTA will be holding their annual sponsored bike ride/big toddle on Sunday, June 13, from 10am; barbecue and festivities from 12pm. All welcome.

Children will be taking the following route: starting at the school and passing through Gwern-y-Steeple and Pendoylan, turning right at Clawdd Coch, passing over the railway crossing to Peacock's Hill and back to the school.

*Motorists need to use this route with caution between 10.30am-1.30pm.*

## Pair of wins for Llantwit ladies bowlers

LLANTWIT MAJOR ladies bowls team played against Cowbridge at home in the Cowbridge Challenge Shield and won on all rinks, gaining 10 points.

The rinks were Kay Johnes, Ann Mutlow, Marian Lewis and Carol Willmot 17-11; Edna Hardie, Val Baelz, Etta Gray and Eryl Nicholls 16-8; and Liz Crouch, Margaret Morgan, Peggy Pike and Jean Voss 21-10.

On Thursday, the team travelled to Cadotown for a league match. The rink was difficult, but they managed to win on two rinks and lost on one, gaining eight points.

The rinks were Edna Hardie, Margaret Morgan, Peggy Pike and Marian Lewis 21-14; Liz Crouch, Hilary Allan, Jean Voss and May Davies 14-16; Kay Johnes, Ann Mutlow, Carol Willmot and Etta Gray 17-12.

## BOWLING CLUB HELPS OUT MACMILLAN WITH CHEQUE



ABOVE: The Cowbridge ladies hand over their cheque,

WHEN the ladies at Cowbridge Bowling Club decided to hold a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support back in April, they never dreamt that it would raise the fantastic amount of £513.80!

Sue Pickin, fundraising manager for Macmillan, went along on a beautiful sunny afternoon to present the team with a well-earned certificate.

Sue said: "We are very grateful to everyone for their hard work, and the ladies certainly put the fun

into fundraising. With 112,000 people living with cancer in Wales, our services are never more needed, and with the help of the ladies team at Cowbridge Bowling Club, we will be one step nearer to realising our ambition to reach everyone affected by cancer."

Pat Davey, president, and Kay Edwards, social secretary said: "We were absolutely thrilled with the amount raised. Our coffee morning is set to become an annual event and we hope to raise even more money next year for this very worthwhile cause."

## Ladies' away form is suffering

THE Cowbridge ladies team is still struggling away from home.

It has faced some strong teams early in the season including Llantwit ladies, who were the Tuesday opponents for the second time in seven days.

This time, in a Cowbridge Shield match, Llantwit won again, and on all three rinks, by 54-29.

Rink scores were: Sue Flower team 11-17, Joy Woolford team 10-21 and Janet Legg's team 25-10.

In its only game of the week, the men's team travelled to Barry to play Barry Plastics.

The Barry club's sprinkler system had broken down and the warm dry weather had turned the green yellow and brown and almost grassless.

The home advantage played a big part in the Thursday home league

game against Barry Central.

Also a factor was that the Barry club was weakened not able to raise a full team.

The result was an overwhelming win for Cowbridge on all 3 rinks and by 94 shots to 27.

Joan Bradley's team, with support from captain Diane Purnell as lead, Glenys Davies at two and Ann Jarvis at three won by 44-5.

Other rink scores: Pat Davey's team 25-12 and May Jones' team 25-10.

In its only game of the week, the men's team travelled to Barry to play Barry Plastics.

The Barry club's sprinkler system had broken down and the warm dry weather had turned the green yellow and brown and almost grassless.

The fast surface should have

been to Cowbridge's advantage but players on both sides had difficulty in finding a consistent weight of delivery.

However, it was a comfortable win for the Barry team by 82 shots to Cowbridge's 42.

Barry also won on three of the four rinks.

Only Michael Bradley's quartet of Ron Frayling leading, Colin Wilson at two and Steve Dickens at three and Michael as skip was able to match Barry and produce an exciting finish.

Going into the 18th and last end, the Cowbridge rink was down by two shots but secured a four shot count to win 17-15.

Other rink scores: Byron Richards team 8-22, Norman Wilkinson team 15-27 and Dennis Snelling team 12-18. MB

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# Olympic ace Matt launches new Vale running centre

**OLYMPIC** 400 metre runner Matt Elias recently launched the new specialist Running School Centre at the world class Vale Resort.

The Vale-based athlete's running biomechanics, movement patterns and running style were analysed by one of the UK's leading running technique coaches, and the founder of the running school, Mike Antoniades.

Mike Antoniades, has worked with clients including teams and athletes from Chelsea FC, Chelsea Academy, (where he worked for four years) Arsenal, Fulham FC, Blackburn, Crystal Palace, QPR and West Ham.

He commented: "We are delighted to be setting up a running school programme in partnership with the Vale Resort.

"We believe our specialist running and multi-directional speed programmes will be of huge benefit to both recreational runners and many of the elite athletes, such as Matt, based at The Vale



ABOVE: Matt Elias on the treadmill.

Resort.

"Our programmes are also available to adults and children who live in the surrounding areas and can improve performance, in terms of speed development and movement efficiency and reduce the risk of injury."

After the video analysis, Matt commented: "To be able to train and have your session analysed through video immediately afterwards offers a fantastic tool for younger athletes to develop better running technique, improve performance and reduce their long-term risk of injury."

Through regular running sessions, I have now no pain in my hip joint and feel much fitter and stronger. I will continue to use the running school every week in order to maintain my fitness goals and future performance."

Also taking part in

the launch event was recreational runner and Vale Resort member Alison Nicholas, who has completed five out of the six sessions of the running school programme for recreational athletes.

"My time at the running school has helped improve my long-term hip injury, along some ongoing physiotherapy sessions.

"Ellis steadied the ship and with the sprightly Coleman at the other end, the pair frustrated the hosts with quick running between the wickets.

Ellis eventually opened up and increased the run rate, scoring his first 50 of the season before being bowled by Laxton, with the partnership worth 108.

Johnson hit some lusty blows in his 14 not out and Peter Coleman bat-

tered through the full 45 overs for a solid 60 not out.

The Wanderers total of

195 for 5 off 45 overs

was about par on a big outfield.

The Penarth innings

started after a superb tea and the Wanderers got an early wicket when James was caught by Thomas for 1, and when Mantell bowled Rowlands, the home side were 32 for 2.

However, a fine partnership of 71 between young Hitchen and Haines moved Penarth onto 93 before John Williams got the much needed breakthrough.

Williams also managed to get Hitchen caught for 33 and Morgan bowled for one.

A quickfire 21 from Griffiths enabled Penarth to stay in the game before Williams struck yet again.

The old adage of 'catches win matches' struck again for the Wanderers with five costly drops.

Coleman was the main culprit dropping three difficult chances, enabling Penarth's captain S Newman to post his 50 and the winning shot through extra cover in the 41st over.

Newman had great support from young Harrison who showed composure beyond his years to steer the home side to victory.

Barry Wanderers Sofa  
Sofa Man of the Match:  
John Williams.

## FIRST TEAM

The firsts were successful at Hayes Point in the reverse fixture, coming out victors by 100 runs. Aled Hughes top scoring with 91 and Ed Sheriff scoring yet another half century.

In the midweek fixtures, the season opener saw BWCC rack up an impressive 181 without loss against Creigiau.

Sheriff (91) and Dean Thomas (57) were both not out. With Mantell taking 4 for 4, Creigiau were never in it and BWCC won by 107 runs.

Next up were the Internationals a week later. With the game starting 20 minutes late due to a variety of reasons, the Internationals scored a competitive 178 off 20 overs.

BWCC were sometimes generous in the field, but overall stuck to their task well. Skip Fenton took one of his trademark one-handed running catches and Dean Thomas then batted beautifully for the second successful week for another 50 ably assisted by Dave Johnson.

The game finished at 9.10pm in darkness, with the home side falling three runs short. What might have happened if the game had finished in daylight?

AF

# Wanderers' Seconds miss vital catches

THE Wanderers Second XI made the short journey to Penarth to play against their old rivals.

On a sunny but blustery day, the Wanderers stand in skipper Mark Ellis won the toss and elected to get runs on the board and bat on what looked like a good track.

The returning Luke Denning was quickly off the mark with an excellent shot off the first ball of the innings and batted very well for his 16 before getting caught off Laxton.

Thomas and Denning quickly followed and when Ferguson was caught for 13 the score was 63 for 4 and the Wanderers were in trouble.

Ellis steadied the ship and with the sprightly Coleman at the other end, the pair frustrated the hosts with quick running between the wickets.

Ellis eventually opened up and increased the run rate, scoring his first 50 of the season before being bowled by Laxton, with the partnership worth 108.

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Barry Wanderers Sofa  
Sofa Man of the Match:  
John Williams.

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# Barry Athletic turn on the style in Carruthers Shield

**BARRY** Athletic Bowls Club breezed through to the knock-out stages of the prestigious Carruthers Shield competition with yet another runaway qualifying round victory.

They ran up their fourth successful group win with an impressive 95-60 win over Maesteg Welfare at Barry Island last Saturday.

The Athletic have produced outstanding bowling in their qualifiers and need to maintain their current form when they come up against stiffer opposition later this month.

Skips Glynn Thomas and Robert Horgan were in sparkling form and both raced to big wins. Glynn came in with a 24-8 card and Robert was close behind with a 30-15 triumph. Chris Blake and Dean Rees won their rinks to make it a clean sweep for Athletic.

**Scores :** Barry Athletic v Maesteg Welfare

S McKernan, C Spillane, K Harris, G Thomas 24 T Summers, P Richards, T Hoare, M Trigg 8;

D Snelling, C Donovan, B Parrish, C Blake 24 D Lloyd,

D Jones, D Rees, P Davies 21; J Beanland, D K Williams, G Whittaker, D Rees 17 A Burrows, J Croke, E Jones, G Evans 16; L Stanley, D Jones, C Wright, R Horgan 30 D John, C Davies, B Hood, M Hopkins 13.

**Athletic 'A'**

The Athletic 'A' side opened their PG2 programme with a deserved win in poor conditions at Cardiff Athletic.

The Barry Club collected nine points in their 74-63 win with Billy Wright in good form at

No 3 on Dave Newman's rink. Their 24-10 success clinched the overall match result – and the vital points.

There was good bowling in an exciting contest on Gareth Humphreys' rink that ended in a tie – 14-14.

Ivor Stevenson's line-up opened in promising style and led 9-3 after nine ends. But the Arms Park rink came back strongly with long jacks earning them nine shots in three ends to slip ahead.

The visitors rallied with a strong finale and eventually went down by one shot.

Bill Summerell's rink, that included the return of Paul Wibley after a long absence, were pipped 17-19 in yet another close affair.

This weekend, the Athletic's first team travel to Llanbradach in a PG1 opener and a PG2 fixture.

**Scores:** Barry Athletic v Cardiff Athletic

A Thomas, P Clarke, P Wibley, B Summerell 17 J Cornish, G Hammond, K Thorne, G Collins 19;

E Booker, D Coombs, B Wright, D Newman 24 D Lewis, B Williams, B Carter, P Cross 10;

C Phillips, B Turner, G Green, I Stevenson 19 A Sedgmore, D Parker, C Tugwell, J Gardner 20;

D Evans, J Jupp, A Minter, G Humphreys 14 D Williams, D Hayes, N Roach, A Rayer 14.

In the event, not only was it played in its entirety, thus validating his seaweed method, but it was the only match played in the West Wales League on Saturday. There were times, however, when the team questioned their unique status.

Throughout the afternoon, episodes of drizzle obscured the view for anyone with glasses and a brisk downpour when Gowerton were 249 for 5 at 4.30pm encouraged the Cowbridge captain to lead a brisk retreat to the shelter of the trees in the hope that Gowerton would take the hint, go in for tea and declare over their sandwiches. This hope was fulfilled.

There had been little to enthuse about until then, apart from the usual keenness of the fielding and the discovery of new wicket keeping talent.

Unfortunately, the former resulted in Hamza Shami's valiant attempt to save a four under the Southway hedge precipi-

# Gowerton prove to be too hot for Cowbridge Thirds

WITH infinite faith in his weather forecasting, the chairman insisted that Cowbridge Thirds call Gowerton up to meet their fixture despite the persisting rain.

tating him into a dense bed of nettles, the results of which he withheld with great stoicism, but Richard Owen's achievement in only letting potential for some useful runs has committed him to keeping wicket for the rest of the season.

Gowerton were able to keep wicket for the to field a bowler who would stretch Cowbridge Seconds, and although Cowbridge Thirds were all out for 65, the result was not as bad as it to score 21 and prevent looks.

## It's rugby versus cricket in charity challenge match

A CHARITY game of 20-20 cricket will take place in Llantwit on Sunday, June 6.

Facing off against each other will be Llantwit Major Rugby Club and Llantwit Major Cricketers Cricket Club at Windmill Lane playing fields.

The match is to support LMRFC's chosen charity for 2010 'Help for Heroes'.

A rugby club spokesman said: "This fantastic group supports servicemen and women who are wounded in the conflict zones around the world, principally our troops serving in Afghanistan."

"LMRFC has strong ties to the military base at St Athan and Help for Heroes is a charity which has sport, especially rugby, at its core."

The day starts at 12 noon when the LMRFC minis take on The Cays under-11s in a 10-over game.

It will be followed by the main event at 1.30pm. There will be a bar, barbecue and raffle running throughout the day.

The spokesman added: "Please come along to what promises to be a fantastic community event and support a wonderful charity. All proceeds from the day will be donated to Help for Heroes."

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## Tennis Club's open evenings

WITH the countdown to Wimbledon under way, Barry Tennis Club is encouraging more people to enjoy playing tennis with a series of open evenings.

They will take place on each Monday and Thursday from 6pm during June, with junior coaching sessions on Sunday mornings.

The club is offering coaching programmes for young players from five years upwards with the club's professional LTA-licensed coach.

For further details about Barry Tennis Club telephone 01446 412352 or email [barrytennis@nwl-world.com](mailto:barrytennis@nwl-world.com) or visit the club's web site at [www.barrytennis.co.uk](http://www.barrytennis.co.uk).

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04	04 MITSUBISHI Shogun Sport 2.5 TD 5-Dr Station Wagon.	In black Mica with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, immobiliser, only 54,530 miles.....	£8,995
04	04 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDI (100ps) Sport 5-dr	In rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles.....	£6,495
04	04 MG ZS 1.8 130bhp 2-Dr Coupe.	In ignition blue with anthracite Sebring interior, alloy wheels, cd player, air con, cd, immobiliser and immobiliser only 27,100 miles.....	£4,995
04	04 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SE 3-Dr Coupe.	In smart silver with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, cruise control, front fog lights, only 71,900 miles.....	£4,995
04	04 CITROEN C2 1.6 16V Sensodrive	In arctic steel silver with neutral mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 100,500 miles.....	£9,995
03	03 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 3.2 R32 3-Door Hatchback.	In diamond black with black leather interior, heated seats climate control, electric sunroof, privacy glass, service history, only 61,560 miles.....	£13,495
03	03 MAZDA MX5 1.8i option pack	In black with black seats with black sports interior, cd, alloy wheels, e/c windows, heated rear screen, only 83,750 miles.....	£5,495
03	03 MINI Cooper 1.6 3-Dr Pepper	In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, cd, electronic window, only 30,840 miles.....	£4,995
02	02 Landrover Freelander 2.0TD Serengeti Ltd Edition 5-Dr Stationwagon.	In java black metallic, with anthracite interior, air con, alloys, roof rails, alarm and immobiliser only 86,565 miles.....	£4,495
02	02 MG ZS 2.5 180.	In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fog, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles.....	£2,995
01	01 Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2 DI-D GLX LE LWB	In metallic silver with blue velour interior, cd, alloys, air con, electric windows/mirrors, alarm and immobiliser, only 68,471 miles.....	£6,495

## FAMILY

08	08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr	In star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, body coloured bumpers, only 10,400 miles.....	£9,495
07	07 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tekna 4WD	In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, body wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles.....	£15,995
07	07 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback	In Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser and immobiliser, only 10,400 miles.....	£6,995
07	07 VAUXHALL Astra 1.4i 16V Energy 5-Dr Hatchback.	In star silver with tabita charcoal interior, CD, anti-lock brakes, colour coded bumpers, only 17,370 miles.....	£7,995
07	07 RENAULT Clio 1.6 16V 9 Dynamique 5-Dr Hatchback.	In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD front fog, alarm, only 15,060 miles.....	£7,295
06	06 TOYOTA Corolla 12 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.	In Eclipse black with silver front interior, a/c, alloy colour coded bumpers, cd, only 32,115 miles.....	£5,995
05	05 NISSAN Megane 1.6 16V Dynamique	In met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles.....	£5,795
05	05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 130 Ghia 5-Dr Hatchback.	In platinum silver with ebony interior, colour coded bumper, multi CD, climate control, service history, only 39,010 miles.....	£6,495
05	05 NISSAN QashQai 1.6 5-Dr Hatchback.	In magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles.....	£6,495
05	05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (130bhp) LX 5-speed	In stardust silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles.....	£5,995
04	04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVT-i T-Spirit Auto 4-Dr Saloon.	Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, leather seats, cd, only 60,050 miles.....	£6,495
04	04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16V Zetec 5-Dr Hatchback.	In panther black with Salomon black interior, climate control, which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles.....	£4,395
03	03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr	In clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 39,300 miles.....	£5,695
02	02 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVT-i GS Automatic 5-dr	In Atlantic blue metallic with honeycomb interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles.....	£3,495

## SMALL

09	09 VAUXHALL Corsa Design Twinport 5-Dr 1.4 16V Auto.	In sapphire black with black leather interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, auto lights, colour coded bumpers, AUX input, only 8,011 miles.....	£10,995
09	09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr.	In black sapphire, with black charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles.....	£8,495
09	09 CHEVROLET Avent 1.6 5-Dr Hatchback.	In pearl black with bricket cloth aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm, only 16,930 miles.....	£5,995
08	08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design 5-Dr	In ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles.....	£8,495
08	08 FORD Ka Zetec Climate.	In diamond white with cascade indigo interior, colour coded bumpers, alloy wheels, air con, cd, quickclear front screen, only 18,130 miles.....	£5,995
08	08 FORD KA Studio.	In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 9,240 miles.....	£5,995
07	07 FORD KA Style Climate.	In tango red with cascade interior, colour coded bumpers, air con, CD, Quickclear front screen, only 32,136 miles.....	£5,295
07	07 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr Hatchback.	In arctic silver with garland interior, air con, colour coded bumper, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 38,556 miles.....	£6,995
07	07 RENAULT Clio 1.6 16V Dynamique 5-Dr Hatchback.	In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,250 miles.....	£6,995
06	06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-Dr Hatchback.	In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, cd, only 19,860 miles.....	£5,995
05	05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3-Dr	In tonic blue with Kyodo ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, remote computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,620 miles.....	£5,295
05	05 FORD KA 1.3 Collection.	In panther black with Tic-Toc interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 8,066 miles.....	£4,195
05	05 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSi 5-Dr.	In clean silver with grey cloth interior, cd, 5 belted seats, driver and passenger airbags, immobiliser, colour coded bumpers, only 26,280 miles.....	£3,995
04	04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0i Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr.	In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, only 51,380 miles.....	£3,995
04	04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Life 5-Dr Hatchback.	In star silver metallic with orleans interior, electric windows, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, only 51,380 miles.....	£3,995
03	03 MINI Cooper 1.6 Pepper.	In pure silver met with Kaleido half leather interior, panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, only 34,530 miles.....	£6,995
03	03 MINI Cooper 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback.	In pure silver with black leather interior, chrome line exterior, air con, cd, only 36,975 miles.....	£6,995
01	01 51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0i Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr.	In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fog, only 46,010 miles.....	£3,995
01	01 Y VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 3-Dr.	In reflex silver met with Pepe's interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles.....	£3,495

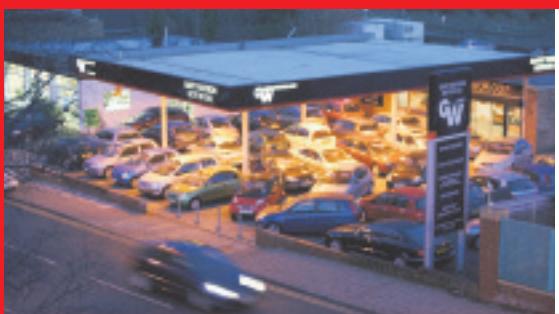


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51 MINI Cooper. In black with grey union jack roof + bonnet, decals, cd, etc. £6,995



05 AUDI A4 Avant 1.9TDi SE. In silver, 50,000 miles, desirable diesel estate  
REDUCED BY £1000 TO £9,995



05 FORD Street Ka. Silver, 1 owner, low mileage, very attractive convertible at..... £5,295



Y VW Beetle 2.0 Convertible. In red, 47,000 miles, 1 owner, 4 seater convertible..... £8,995



53 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec Estate. In silver, 61,000 miles, fantastic value at..... £4,295

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07	MERCEDES CL500 Auto.	In silver with full black leather trim, 25,000 miles, host of extras on this luxury coupe .....	£44,995
04	MERCEDES SL55 AMG.	In met silver with grey leather trim, 33,000 miles, panoramic roof, command Bose etc.....	REDUCED TO £29,995
55	MERCEDES S 320 CDi.	In silver with black leather, 47,000 miles, high spec diesel executive saloon at....	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £15,995
05	MERCEDES CLK 220 CDi.	In silver with grey leather trim, 60,000 miles, usual refinements .....	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £12,995
05	AUDI A4 Avant 1.9TDi SE.	In silver, 50,000 miles, desirable diesel estate at.....	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £9,995
05	MERCEDES C180 Kompressor Classic SE Auto.	In met blue, 56,000 miles, with alloys etc..	£9,995
04	VW Beetle 2.0 Convertible.	In red, 47,000 miles, 1 owner, 4 seater convertible .....	£8,995
04	CHRYSLER Crossfire 3.2 Coupe.	In ice blue metallic with charcoal leather trim, 44,000 miles .....	£8,495
54	ROVER 75 Contemporary SE CDTi Silver.	46,000 miles, heated leather seats, air con, CD, comfort with diesel economy .....	£6,996
02	LEXUS GS300 SE Navigator.	In claret metallic with light grey leather trim, 75,000 miles, looks and drives superb ..	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995
Y	BMW Z3 2.2	In black with black leather trim, 77,000 miles .....	£5,995
05	FORD Street Ka.	Silver, 1 owner, low mileage, very attractive convertible at .....	£5,295
53	VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Convertible.	In electric blue with black hood, 48,000 miles, full electric hood, a/c, CD .....	£4,995
51	TOYOTA Celica 1.8VVTi.	In blue, 75,000 miles with glass roof, rear spoiler etc..	£4,995
02	PEUGEOT 206cc 20.	In met-blue with black leather trim, 58,000 mile convertible at.....	£4,695
03	MG TF 160.	In silver, 35,000 miles, 2 owners from new, with hard top at .....	£4,495
04	ALFA ROMEO 156 1.8 Twin Spark Lusso.	In Monza green metallic, 86,000 miles, on offer at .....	£2,995

## SMALL, ECONOMICAL AND FAMILY CARS

07	SKODA Octavia 1.9 TDi 5-Dr.	In silver, 37,000 miles, 1desl diesel hatch at .....	£7,995
05	MINI COOPER	In chilli red with chequered flag details, 48,000 miles with Cooper alloys etc. ....	£7,995
06	RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique.	In silver, 46,000 miles, 2 owners, 7 seater .....	£6,995
53	FORD Galaxy 1.9TDDi Ghia 6-speed.	In met silver, 61,000 miles, high spec diesel, 7 seater .....	£6,995
54	MINI Cooper.	In black with grey union jack roof + bonnet, decals, cd etc .....	£6,995
56	FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate Automatic.	In black, only 12,000 miles .....	£6,495
54	VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi 3-Dr (New Shape).	In met blue, 40,000 miles .....	£6,495
56	TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 T3 3-Dr.	In silver, 21,000 miles, very sought-after model at .....	£6,295
07	RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr.	In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc .....	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995
54	FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDi.	Magnus grey, 36,000 miles, outstanding value & economy .....	£5,995
04	TOYOTA Corolla 2.0 D4D T3 5-dr.	In silver, 54,000 miles diesel with sat-nav .....	£5,995
03	MAZDA MX5 1.8.	In met-blue, great looking car with alloys, cd etc .....	£5,995
55	NISSAN Primara 2.0 SX 5-dr.	In silver, 35,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys, reversing camera..	£5,495
56	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+ 5-Dr.	Blue, low mileage, with half-leather trim, etc. ....	£4,995
55	FORD Focus 1.5 Diesel LX Estate.	In silver, 77,000 miles with CD, air con etc. ....	£4,995
55	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.5Di - D Equipe 3-dr.	In met-grey 41,000 miles, diesel hatch with low running costs.....	£4,995
54	PEUGEOT 307 XSi 3-Dr 2.0 HDi.	In black, 69,000 miles, superb looking diesel at .....	£4,995
54	RENAULT Megane VVTi Privilige Automatic 5-dr.	Met grey, half leather trim, low mileage .....	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995
57	RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus.	In steel blue, 37,000 miles, fantastic value at.....	£4,795
55	FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-Dr.	Silver, 47,000 miles .....	£4,495
55	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-Dr.	In silver, 41,000 miles, air con, alloys etc .....	£4,495
04	FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec Estate.	In silver, 61,000 miles, fantastic value at .....	£4,295
04	FORD Fiesta Ghia Automatic.	In black, 47,000 miles with parking sensors etc .....	£4,295
06	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr.	In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles.....	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
56	FORD Ka Collection.	In violet met, 27,000 miles, e/w, c/l, c/d etc .....	£3,995
56	CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0SE 5-dr.	In silver, 10,000 miles with a/c, cd, etc .....	£3,995
06	FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.	In Apple green, 23,000 miles with cd, e/w, c/l .....	REDUCED BY £800 TO £3,995
04	PEUGEOT 206 1.1S 3-dr.	In silver, 32,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c .....	£3,995
03	SAAB 95 2.2TDi.	In silver with black leather, 93,000 miles, solid diesel saloon at .....	£3,995
04	FIESTA 1.2 LX 3-Dr.	In silver, 56,000 miles, alloys, CD etc. ....	£3,995
55	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXi 3-dr.	In black, 39,000 miles, fantastic value at .....	£3,695
05	CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.	Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car .....	£3,695
04	FIESTA 1.2 Finesse 3-Dr.	In black, 65,000 miles, one lady owner .....	£3,495
52	VW Polo 1.2 5-Dr.	In silver, 70,000 miles, 1 local owner .....	£3,495
53	FORD Ka Collection.	In sea - frost silver, 47,000 miles, very attractive low mileage car .....	£3,295
54	DAEWOO Kalos 1.2 Extra Cool.	In red, 42,000 miles with CD, air con etc. ....	£2,995
53	FORD Ka 1.3i	In blue, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner .....	£2,995
51	RENAULT Clio 2.0 Sport 172.	In met-red, very nice example at .....	£2,995
53	DAEWOO Matiz SE.	Silver, 25,000 miles, outstanding value .....	£2,695
53	DAEWOO Matiz 796cc Extra.	In met bronze, 42,000 miles with CD .....	£2,495
52	DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6SX.	In met-red with cd, a/c, alloys .....	£2,495
02	CITROEN Saxo 1.6 VTR.	In black, host of extras, group 7 insurance. ....	REDUCED BY £500 TO £1,995

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**04 04 PEUGEOT 206cc Cabriolet, black, 50k**

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**06 06 HONDA Jazz 1.6i 5-dr, met blue, 30k**

**£5,975**

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Total amount payable

**£6169.16**

Weekly equivalent **£39.55**

APR **14.82%**

\*Photos are indicative only

### Small Cars

09 58 CITROEN C2 1.4 VTR 3-dr	Black, 8k	£7,475
06 56 FORD Fiesta Ghia 5-dr.	Leather, Black, 30k	£6,975
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 3-dr.	Silver, 14k	£6,475
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4i 5-dr Desire.	Black, 11k	£5,975
04 54 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3VVT	Met blue, 17k	£5,975
07 07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style.	Silver, 24k	£5,750
06 06 CITROEN C1 Rhythm.	Black, 25k	£5,475
05 55 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 3-dr.	Silver, 30k	£4,975
05 05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 LX 5-dr	Silver, 38k	£4,975
03 53 HYUNDAI Getz 1.3 3-dr.	Red, 65k	£2,975
05 05 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 5-dr SE	Silver, 50k	£2,950
04 54 KIA Rio LE 5-dr H/B.	Silver, 45k	£2,975

### Family Cars

06 56 TOYOTA Corolla T3 1.6 5-dr.	Silver, 50k	<b>Sold</b>
06 06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate TDCi 5-dr.	Met blue,	£6,975
06 06 HONDA Jazz 5-dr.	Blue, 30k	£5,975
05 55 SAAB 4-dr 2.2 TDi Auto.	Met gold, 60k	£5,975
04 04 PEUGEOT 407 Turbo CDi.	Met blue, 60k	£5,975
07 07 MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Equipe.	Met Grey, 24k	£5,475
04 04 FORD Focus 1.8i Edge 3-Dr.	Met blue, 60k	<b>Sold</b>
04 04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 TDI 3-dr.	Blue, 60k	£4,975
05 05 FORD Focus Zetec 1.8 TDI 3-dr.	Blue, 70k	£4,650
04 54 FORD Focus Ghia Saloon 1.6 4-dr.	Silver, 55k	£4,495
01 Y VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0.	Yellow, 80k	£4,475
03 53 HONDA Civic 1.6i V-Tec S	Met Blue, 55k	£3,950

### Estates & MPVs

06 56 TOYOTA RAV 4x4 2.0 TDI 5-dr.	Black, 40k	£10,975
05 56 PEUGEOT 307 SW TDCi 5-dr.	Blue, 40k	<b>Sold</b>
06 56 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi EXEC MPV	Red, 30k	£6,975
04 04 SUZUKI Jimny 1.3 Mode SW.	Red/silver	<b>Sold</b>
06 56 RENAULT Scenic 2.0 WT Dynamique	Blue, 22k	£5,975
06 56 CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SXi 5-dr MPV.	Red, 24k	<b>Sold</b>
02 52 RENAULT Scenic 1.9 TDI.	One owner, 70k, black	£3,495

### Sports & Executives

04 04 MERCEDES 500 SL Cabriolet.	Silver, 80k	£17,975
05 05 BMW 330Ci Sports Coupe.	Leather, 30k	£10,975
04 04 CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR Sports Coupe.	Met. Green, 50k	£5,975
04 04 PEUGEOT 206cc Cabriolet.	Black, 50k	£5,975
04 04 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury.	Leather black, 49k	£5,975

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08 58 CITROEN C4 Picasso 1.6 HDi.	Met Red, only 5,500 miles!
New £21,750	<b>Ours £12,250 Saving £9,500</b>
09 59 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 5-dr.	Ultra blue, only 3,500 miles!
New £19,450	<b>Ours £11,950 Saving £7,500</b>
59 10 KIA CEED 1.6 5-dr hatch AUTO.	Black, only ??? miles!
New £14,500	<b>Ours £11,500 Saving £3,000</b>
09 59 VAUXHALL Astra Sxi 1.6 3-dr.	Grey, only 8,000 miles!
New £17,500	<b>Ours £11,500 Saving £6,000</b>
09 59 VW Polo Match 1.4 TD 5-dr.	Black, only 4,000 miles!
New £14,750	<b>Ours £11,500 Saving £3,750</b>
09 09 FORD Fiesta Zetec 1.4 5-dr.	Tango red, only 2,500 miles!
New £15,500	<b>Ours £11,000 Saving £4,500</b>
07 07 TOYOTA Verso TS 1.8 mpv.	Silver, only 23,000 miles!
New £18,500	<b>Ours £11,000 Saving £7,500</b>
09 09 PEUGEOT 207S 1.6 TD 5-dr hatch.	Neysha blue, only 13,500 miles!
New £15,500	<b>Ours £10,000 Saving £5,500</b>
07 07 VW Golf 1.6 5-dr.	Steel grey, only 10,000 miles!
New £17,500	<b>Ours £10,000 Saving £7,500</b>
08 59 KIA Carens GS 2.0 mpv.	Silver, only 5,500 miles!
New £15,750	<b>Ours £9,750 Saving £6,000</b>
07 07 VAUXHALL Astra SXi 1.7 TD 3-dr manual.	Silver, only 35,500 miles!
New £19,500	<b>Ours £9,500 Saving £10,000</b>
07 07 HONDA Jazz Sport 1.4 5-dr	Chiffon Green, only 31,000 miles!
New £14,500	<b>Ours £8,500 Saving £6,000</b>
07 07 RENAULT Clio Privilège 1.6.	Eclipse, only 18,000 miles!
New £14,500	<b>Ours £8,000 Saving £6,500</b>
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa Sxi 1.2 3-dr.	Black, only 21,000 miles!
New £13,500	<b>Ours £8,000 Saving £5,500</b>
07 07 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 5-dr Design AUTO.	Silver, only 3,500 miles!
New £17,000	<b>Ours £7,575 Saving £10,000</b>
07 07 CITROEN Xsara Picasso VTX 1.6 mpv.	Silver, only 14,000 miles!
New £14,500	<b>Ours £7,500 Saving £7,000</b>
07 07 FORD Fusion Zetec Climate 1.4 5-dr.	Tonic, only 14,500 miles!
New £13,000	<b>Ours £7,500 Saving £6,000</b>
07 07 RENAULT Modus Dynamique 1.4 5-dr	Gold met, only 20,000 miles!
New £13,500	<b>Ours £6,500 Saving £7,000</b>
07 07 CHEVROLET Tacuma Sx 1.6 mpv.	Blue, only 42,000 miles!
New £13,000	<b>Ours £4,500 Saving £8,500</b>

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# GEM sport

## Flickers of light in the gloom of the stats give Wales cause for hope...

**BACK PAGE COMMENT** by Don John

ON Saturday, December 1, 1906, at the height of the first Welsh 'golden age', a legendary team containing the likes of Percy Bush, Gwyn Nicholls and Dicky Owen, faced South Africa for the first time in front of 40,000 spectators at St Helen's, Swansea.

Only the year previously, there had been that epic 3-0 win in Cardiff over an all-conquering New Zealand touring side and confidence was no doubt high that star-studded Wales was about to claim another big international rugby scalp.

However, on this occasion the men in red failed to score a point as the tourists (henceforth to become known as the Springboks, on this their first overseas tour) ran in three tries for a comfortable 11-0 victory.

### Dominance

That historic game, the first of just 23 encounters over 113 years, set the template for almost unbroken Springbok dominance ever since.

The pattern was only briefly broken at the start of the second 'golden age' on January 24, 1970, when Wales held the tourists to a 6-6 draw at the National Stadium, with another burgeoning side of rugby immortals, including a young JPR Williams, Barry John and Gareth Edwards.

Both teams scored a try and a penalty – all of the home points coming from Edwards (his only successful penalty kick in a glittering career, though it may be forgotten now that the legendary scrum half also had

two conversions and three drop goals after his name!)

Normal service was resumed 24 years later, on November 26, 1994, when Wales went down 12-24. While it is true to say that the early fixtures between the two nations had been generally close-run affairs, at least on the scoreboard, the gap between the two widened after South Africa returned to the world rugby fold from years of exclusion during the apartheid era.

### HUMILIATION

In 1995, the margin was 40-11 – but who can forget that humiliating day on June 27, 1998, at Loftus Versfeld, when a makeshift Welsh team were over-run 96-13, and only a final knock-on prevented the Springboks from scoring a 16th try to notch the full century?

This however, was partly avenged just 12 months later, on June 26, 1999, at the half-completed new Millennium Stadium, when an inspired Wales abruptly ended a run of 10 successive Springbok victories to record a first (and only) 29-19 win over the tourists.

### INCONSISTENT

Alas, the inconsistency that has long haunted Welsh performances struck again in the two recent Grand Slam years: in 2005, Wales lost 16-33; in 2008, they twice slumped away – by 43-17 and 37-21.

Later that year, they again lost 15-20 in Cardiff, though many claimed it was a game they arguably should have won.

So, while history's bare statistics may suggest the omens are not good, as

Wales again prepare to lock horns with the world champions at the Millennium Stadium on Saturday, that last performance and the 1999 result alone should act as a powerful motivating spur to Warren Gatland's 2010 charges.

After all, history is there to be created, not brooded over – and there is a newfound mental resilience and physical muscularity, allied to natural skill in the Welsh game (as evidenced by the resurgent Blues and Ospreys' trophy triumphs) that should surely fire the current players' belief in their ability to compete with the world's best.

### MESSAGE...

That is the underlying message coach Gatland will be aiming to reinforce as part of Wales' build-up to next year's Rugby World Cup.

Where better to start than with only a second win over a drastically-changed South African team this Saturday afternoon, followed (hopefully) by a morale-building, two-test tour of New Zealand?

Once again, Welsh confidence is high – but on this occasion it could well prove not to be misplaced.

**WALES TEAM:**  
Lee Byrne, Leigh Halfpenny, James Hook, Jamie Roberts, Tom Prydie, Stephen Jones, Mike Phillips; Paul James, Matthew Rees, Adam Jones, Bradley Davies, Deiniol Jones, Jonathan Thomas, Sam Warburton, Ryan Jones (captain).

**REPLACEMENTS**  
Huw Bennett, John Yapp, Alun Wyn Jones, Andy Powell, Richie Rees, Dan Biggar, Andrew Bishop

## Porthcawl under-10s welcome back their 'old boy' Tom Prydie!



ABOVE: Brandon Cooper receives a sponsorship cheque from Jim Brookson.

## Teams' three-horse race



**LEFT:**  
**Croissants,**  
who are  
keeping the  
pressure on  
**B Attack.**

MARK TURNER was in fine form for Bridgend six-a-side Premier Division leaders B Attack as they put Racing Inter to the sword in a 7-0 mauling.

Croissants kept up the pressure as Mike Cotter pulled the strings in their commanding 4-0 victory over Hangover Heroes. Day Sleepers are very much in the mix as they edged past Dunraven, 2-1.

Athletico Brackla demonstrated just why they sit at the summit of division one, as Mike Perry was the standout performer in a 10-1 mauling of Inter Wildmill.

If anyone is interested in joining the Bridgend six-a-side Leisure League, they can call 0845 230 2340 or visit [www.leisureleagues.net](http://www.leisureleagues.net)

### Premier Division

Team Name	Played	Goal Diff	Points
B Attack	10	29	17
Croissants	10	33	15
Day Sleepers	10	10	15
Hangover Heroes	10	-6	10
dunraven	10	2	9
The Pie Boys	10	-21	6
Racing Inter	10	-19	5
Persil Boys FC	10	-28	3
<b>Division One</b>			
Athletic Brackla	10	32	19
Bulldogs	10	6	15
Hardly Athletic	10	2	12
Dead End Jobs,			
But Football Gods	10	8	11
Young Exiles	10	6	9
Laleston Lions	10	-6	6
Team Xtreme	10	-16	4
Inter Wildmill	10	-32	4

PORTHCAWL under-10s recently had their annual presentation evening at Porthcawl rugby club.

Welsh international and product of Porthcawl RFC, Tom Prydie, presented the boys with their medals.

Jim Brookson, a representative from BEMS ENERGY, was also a guest at the evening and presented captain Brandon Cooper with a sponsorship cheque for £300.

A special award was also made to Louis Protheroe, who recently represented West Wales under-11 schools against East Wales at Ebbw Vale. His grandfather, Paul Stenner, represented Wales at youth level.



Louis Protheroe with grandfather Paul Stenner and Tom Prydie.

### Family fun...



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## Pontycymmer RFC gets £5,000 cash boost

PONTYCYMMER RFC has been chosen from hundreds of entries as one of three winning clubs in RBS RugbyForce, a nationwide initiative for renovating UK rugby clubs.

Pontycymmer RFC was nominated by club president Ivor John Evans who said: "We have been in existence since 1887 and are the oldest rugby club in the Garw Valley. The club does a fantastic job providing a focal point for adults and youngsters and we would like to upgrade our facilities in order to attract more ladies, families and

young members to the club."

The official panel of judges that assessed the 2010 registrations was international rugby legends Ieuan Evans, Jason Leonard and Andy Nicol, as well as *Rugby World* editor Paul Morgan, BBC Sport producer Ron Chakraborty and head of brand and marketing for RBS, David Webb.

Ieuan Evans commented on the selection of Pontycymmer: "It was a really tough choice."

"Between the WRU development team and myself we had shortlisted a number of really deserving clubs

across Wales that could easily have made great use of the extra support."

"In the end, Pontycymmer made a case for themselves through their history of establishing and nurturing rugby talent in the region, and their belief in rugby breeding social values in their youth sides."

To volunteer to help at the official RBS RugbyForce weekend at Pontycymmer RFC on Saturday or Sunday, June 5/6, contact [stevethomas@electrical@btinternet.com](mailto:stevethomas@electrical@btinternet.com) or [Keith@phoenixaudit.com](mailto:Keith@phoenixaudit.com).